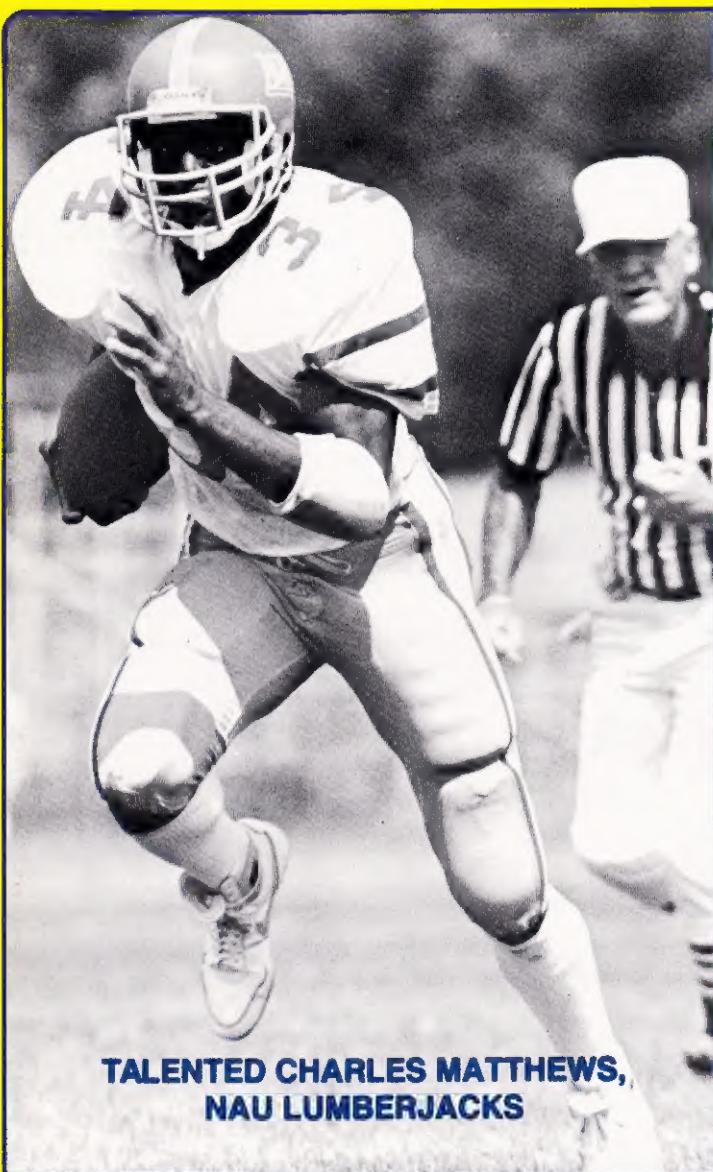


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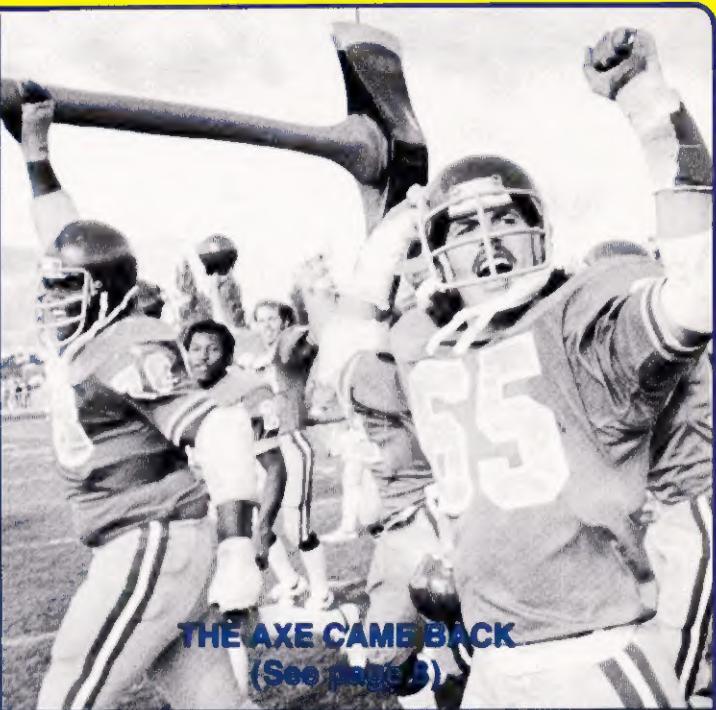
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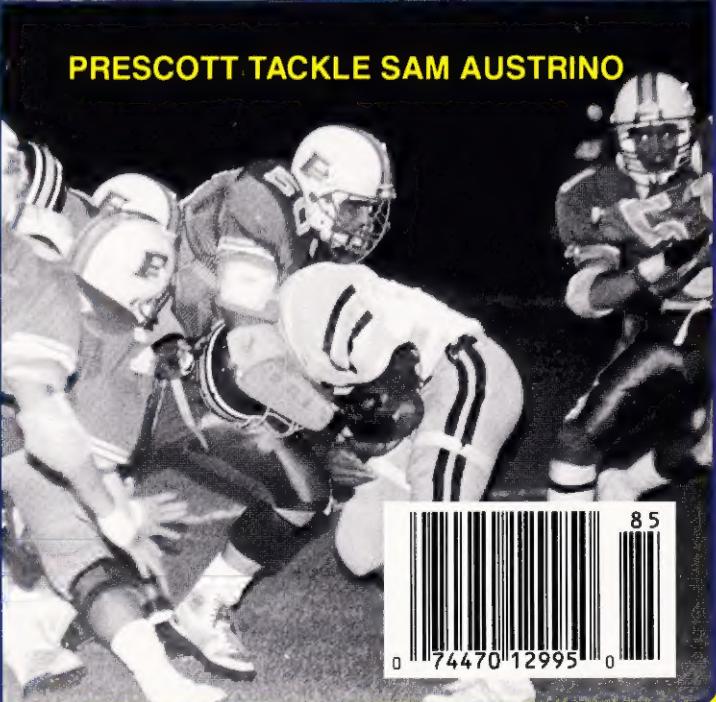
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TALENTED CHARLES MATTHEWS,  
NAU LUMBERJACKS



THE AXE CAME BACK  
(See page 5)



PRESCOTT TACKLE SAM ASTRINO

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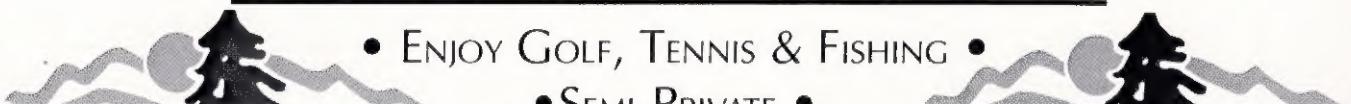
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- 1988 Preview • Football Records

Plano, Texas:  
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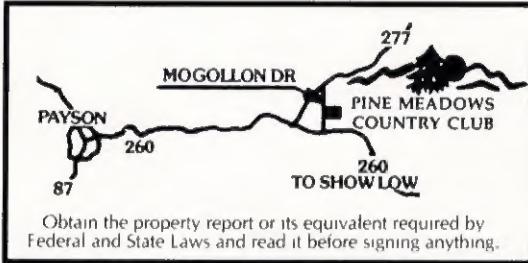
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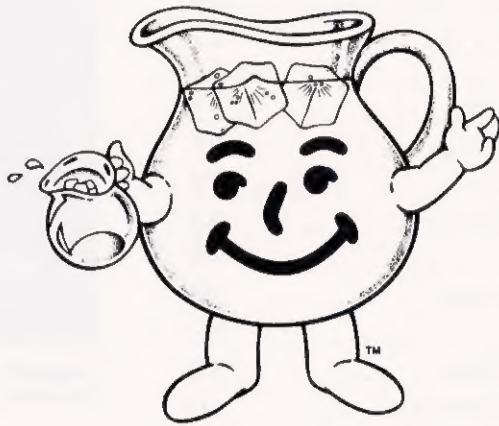
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The Flagstaff Football Magazine is published annually by Saguaro Sports Publications, P.O. Box 27564, Tempe, AZ 85285, phone (602) 967-7256. We salute the coaches and players at the university and high school levels in Flagstaff and Northern Arizona. Special thanks to David Kukulski and Wylie Smith for their contributions to this publication. Cover photos by NAU, *Arizona Daily Sun*, *Prescott Courier*.

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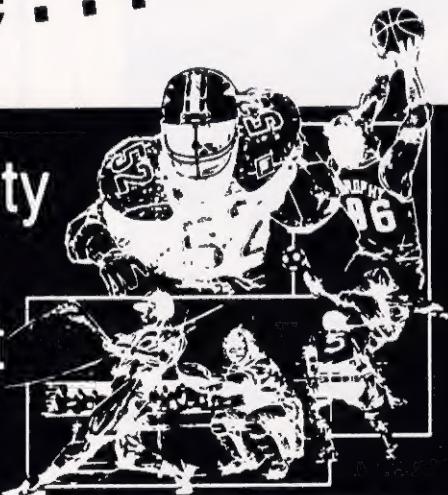
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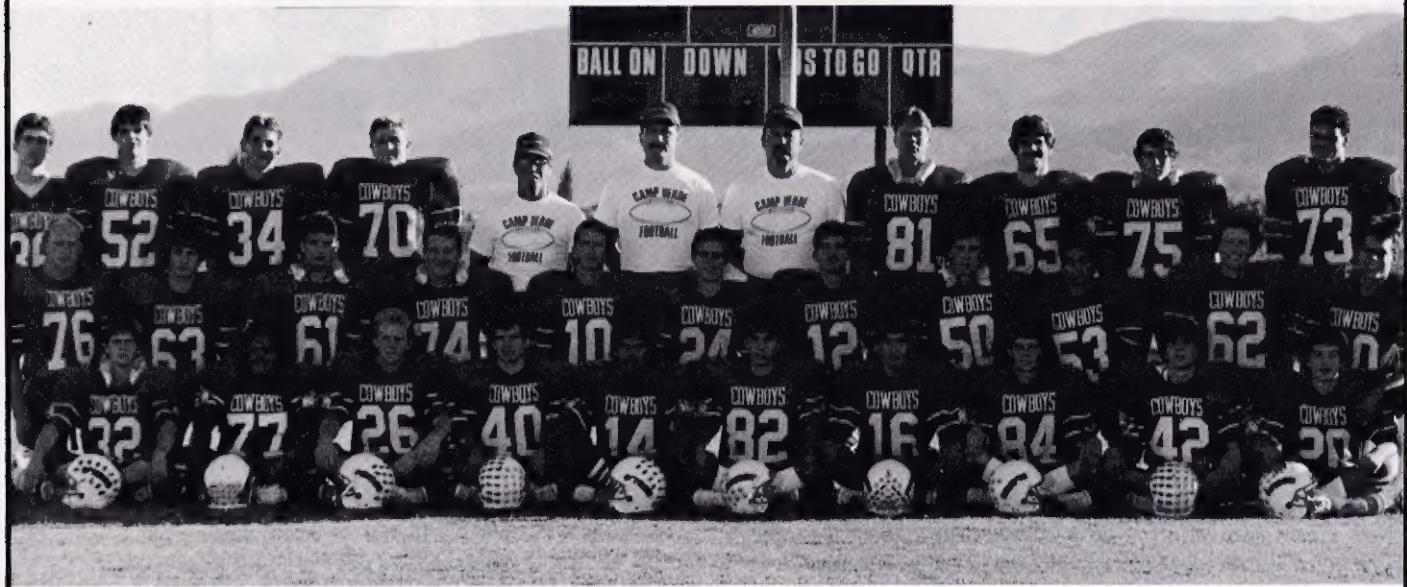


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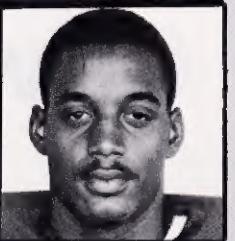
Bob Breunig  
Alhambra



Larry Gordon  
Phoenix Union



Fred Carr  
Phoenix Union



Odel Stewart  
Buena

### Honoring Arizona's Best High School Linebackers!

1987 .. Jeremiah Clark, Mesa  
1986 .. Odel Stewart, Sierra Vista Buena  
1985 .. Bob Davis, Mesa Mountain View  
1984 .. Charles Mathews, Eloy Santa Cruz  
1983 .. Tim Hicks, Sunnyslope  
1982 .. Randall McDaniel, Agua Fria  
1981 .. Darin Tupper, Phoenix Trevor Browne  
1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe  
1979 .. Todd Shell, Mesa Mountain View  
1978 .. Kurt Whiteman, Scottsdale  
1977 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphi  
1976 .. Riki Gray, Tucson Amphi (jr)  
1975 .. Alan Edwards, Morenci  
1974 .. Roark Shirley, Tempe Marcos de Niza  
1973 .. Richard Rucker, Canyon del Oro  
1972 .. Tim Peterson, Ajo  
1971 .. Larry Gordon, Phoenix Union  
1970 .. Bob Breunig, Alhambra  
1969 .. Bill Crowe, Tempe McClintock (jr)  
1968 .. Larry Delbridge, Coolidge  
1967 .. Jeff Quinn, Mesa Westwood  
1966 .. Jay Ray Rokey, Mesa Westwood  
1965 .. Bill Owsley, North Phoenix  
1964 .. Ron Hendrix, Phoenix Camelback  
1963 .. Dana Woudenberg, Scottsdale Arcadia  
1962 .. Fred Carr, Phoenix Union (jr)

1961 .. Ross Shannon, North Phoenix  
1960 .. Florence Chandler, Tucson  
1959 .. Bob Olson, South Mountain  
1958 .. Sam King, Mesa  
1957 .. Art Acosta, Tucson  
1956 .. Floyd Smith, Phoenix Union  
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Alchesay High School .....	338-4361	Orme Ranch High School .....	632-7601
Baboquivari High School .....	383-2601	Page High School .....	645-8801
Bagdad High School .....	633-2201	Parker High School .....	669-2202
Blue Ridge High School .....	363-6328	Payson High School .....	474-2233
Bradshaw Mountain High School .....	772-9200	Prescott High School .....	445-5400
Camp Verde High School .....	567-3391	Round Valley High School .....	333-4315
Chinle High School .....	674-3481	St. Johns High School .....	337-2221
Coconino High School .....	779-6415	Salome High School .....	859-3453
Flagstaff High School .....	779-6430	Seligman High School .....	422-3293
Fredonia High School .....	643-7333	Show Low High School .....	537-2901
Ganado High School .....	755-3436	Snowflake High School .....	536-7645
Grand Canyon High School .....	638-2461	Tuba City High School .....	283-5209
Holbrook High School .....	524-2815	Valley High School .....	688-2751
Joseph City High School .....	288-3361	Wickenburg High School .....	684-2841
Kingman High School .....	753-6216	Williams High School .....	635-4474
Lake Havasu High School .....	855-4011	Window Rock High School .....	729-5704
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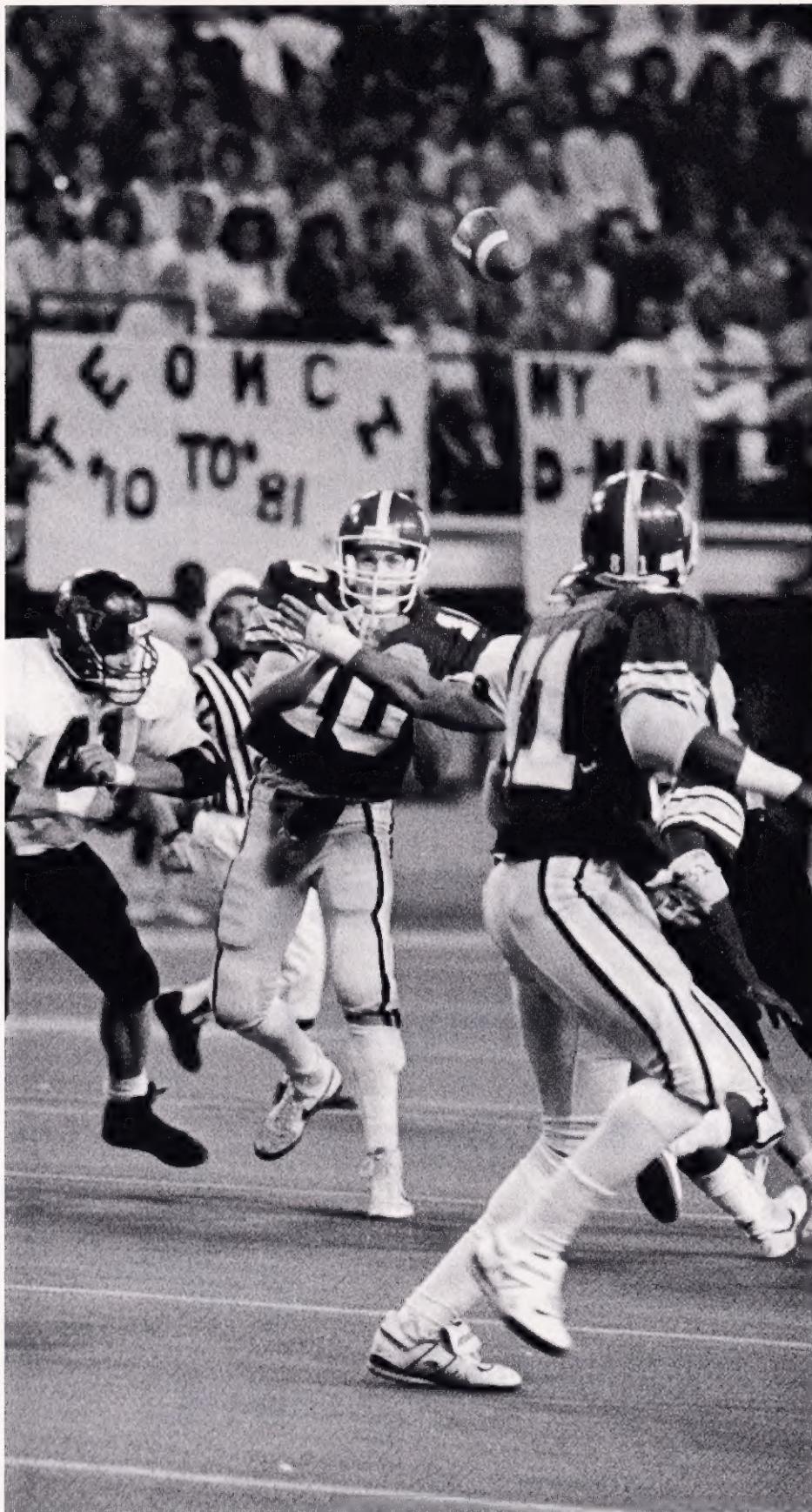
&

**David Ord**

**ARIZONA DAILY SUN  
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# The Jacks Are Lookin' Good



*The Big Sky's best quarterback: NAU rifleman, Greg Wyatt.*

By Lonnie Collins

**T**his will be Larry Kentura's fourth year as the Lumberjacks' head football coach. If the troops stay healthy, this will be his best.

Since "improvement" is the name of the game, NAU has reason to be excited. Kentura is 17-14 on the field, including a 3-8 finish in 1985, his first. The 'Jacks have since completed back-to-back 7-4 campaigns.

"We hope to make steady improvement as we have each of the past two years," says the former assistant to legendary Frank Kush at Arizona State. "We have some outstanding players to replace. However, we feel that we are moving in a positive direction in that we are losing 12-15 players each year and have 15-20 key newcomers entering our program each fall. This creates a healthy situation.

"If we stay healthy and get a few breaks along the way, we should have another exciting team to watch. Key injuries hurt us each of the past two

---

**"Key injuries hurt us each of the past two seasons, but we still managed to produce winning seasons because we had depth at those positions."**

---

seasons, but we still managed to produce winning seasons because we had depth at those positions. That doesn't always happen at the I-AA level because of the scholarship limitations.

"The Big Sky is a spectators dream and a coaches nightmare," insists Kentura. "There's a lot of offense and there's enough variety that it creates a monster for the defensive coaches. Seldom do you see the same philosophy, but all are high-powered, explosive offensive units that can strike from anyplace on the field."

Kentura points out that the Big Sky is one of the best I-AA conferences in

## 1988 NAU SCHEDULE

Sept. 3	Southern Utah
Sept. 10	E. Washington
Sept. 17	Boise State
Oct. 1	at Idaho
Oct. 8	at Nevada-Reno
Oct. 15	at Montana
Oct. 22	Idaho State
Oct. 29	at Montana State
Nov. 5	Northern Iowa
Nov. 12	at Nicholls State
Nov. 19	Weber State

the nation as far as balance. He also mentions that one can look at the NFL draft each year and see the number of free agency signings out of the Big Sky. Counting draftees and free agents, the Big Sky averages from 15-20 players a year who sign with pro teams.

Last fall, NAU averaged 277.6 yards per game passing and a school record 434.5 yards total offense. The 385 points (35.0 per game) was also a school record. Nationally, NAU was 7th in total offense and 5th in scoring.

"Despite graduation losses, we feel that we have some real quality players returning who are capable of providing solid leadership in our offense," claims offensive coordinator Brad Childress. "We have good players who can step in and plug the holes left by last year's seniors."

Senior Jeff Haddad (6-2, 300), who started several games at left guard, will be given a crack at left tackle. Tom Merriam, a 6-3, 225-pound sophomore from Tempe McClintock, and junior Brian Watley (6-3, 240) will battle for the center spot.

Three backs return, including former Eloy flash Charles Matthews, a 6-1, 195-pound senior who rushed for 445 yards, caught 11 passes for 93 yards and was dynamic on special teams. David Lang (6-1, 200), one of the top sprinters in the Big Sky, also returns. So does Anthony Hall, a fierce runner who packs 220 pounds on his 6-0 frame.

Calling the shots for the third straight year at QB will be junior Greg Wyatt (6-3, 190), the first player in college history to enter his junior season with 500 or more completions in his career. In two short years, the former Moon Valley High star is 518 of 806 (63%) for 5,864 yards and 41 touchdowns. The previous



NFL material: NAU tight end Shawn Collins, record breaker deluxe.

### BEST OF THE LUMBERJACKS

QB .. Greg Wyatt .....	6-3, 198. Jr.
TE .. Shawn Collins .....	6-4, 220, Sr.
PK .. Mickey Penaflor .....	5-9, 180, Jr.
LB .. Erik Vance .....	6-1, 220, Sr.
OT .. Vince Beemiller .....	6-4, 280, Sr.
WB .. Charles Matthews .....	6-1, 195, Sr.
LB .. Don Ott .....	6-0, 200, Sr.
DB .. Henry Miller .....	6-0, 200, Sr.
DB .. John Dierking .....	6-0, 195, Sr.

# THE AXE CAME BACK!

When Weber State defeated NAU 19-8 to close out the 1975 football season, Joe Salem's Lumberjacks concluded a dismal 1-9 campaign. Nobody in town was very happy.

Especially the students.

The Lumberjacks hadn't had a winning season since 1969. That club, coached by John Symank, finished 7-3. In 1976, during the off-season, a group of students high-jacked the axe from the statue of the school's mascot, Paul Bunyan. They promised to return it only after Salem's club won a game. They had lost nine in a row the previous year.

They kept their promise.

In their opener, NAU snapped a nine-game drought by beating visiting United States International from San Diego, 20-0. But the players waited until the next week, a September 11 encounter with favored Idaho State, to display the hardware. The 'Jacks upset the visitors, 34-7 and 320-pound tackle Lamont Hamlett (see photo) and several teammates carried the axe onto the field in display.

(Arizona Daily Sun)



This win in 1976 brought back the axe.

Salem's crew finished 8-3, and in 1977-78 put together 8-3 and 8-2 campaigns respectively. Historically, was it the best, most consistent three years of Lumberjack football since the

1956-57-58 Max Spilsbury era. In '58, Spilsbury's squad played in the original Holiday Bowl, losing 19-13 to Northeastern Oklahoma in a game played in St. Petersburg, Florida.

two-year mark for freshman-sophomore seasons was 443 completions by Fresno State's Kevin Sweeney in 1983-84.

Wyatt's top target for the past two seasons has been tight end Shawn Collins (6-4, 220), a San Diego native who has 147 career catches for 1,855 yards and 15 scores. Collins, a pro prospect with 4.5 forty speed, is just three catches away from the NAU record of 149 set by Pete Mandley, the NFL's No. 7 receiver last season with the Detroit Lions.

Besides Collins, NAU returns a flock of talented receivers for the '88 campaign, including Sandy Sledge (6-0, 175) with 55 career catches for 1,132 yards (20.6 ypc.); Larry Huff (5-9, 175) with 45 career catches for 689 yards, and Herb Duncan (6-1, 180), another San Diego native who is the son of former Charger all-pro defensive back, Leslie "Speedy" Duncan.

Other receivers with strong promise include Darrell Hinton (6-0, 185), a junior who switched over from the secondary; Chris Baniszewski (5-10, 165), another Tempe McClintock product who has 31 catches for 398 yards and three touchdowns, and Tucson Sunnyside grad Glenn Posey (6-2, 175), who came on strong last season and caught seven passes for 95 yards.

Newcomers at tight end will include Erin Motes (6-4, 200), a junior from Eastern Arizona JC who caught 38 passes in 1987 and Scott Benning, a 6-4, 190-pounder who redshirted last fall. Speedy Gene Martin (5-9, 170, 4.5) will be tested at running back and wide receiver. Last season he averaged 20.7 yards every time he touched the ball - 18.2 rushing and 24.7 receiving.

**"We've also got a lot of good Arizona kids lately. But the conference is so balanced. It's going to go down to the wire."**

Another newcomer at running back is Nathaniel Gatt (5-10, 185), a junior from Dallas who averaged over 100 yards per game at San Bernardino JC in California. The Lumberjacks return two of the premier interior linemen in the Big Sky in Vince Beemiller, a hard-hitting 6-4, 280-pound senior from Scottsdale Saguaro, and Frank Pollack, a 6-5, 260 pound senior from Phoenix Greenway. Both are outstanding pass and run blockers. Tony Conrad, a 6-2, 260-pound sophomore from Scottsdale Hori-

zon, started last season at right guard as a frosh and turned in a quality job.

Experienced offensive linemen also include junior tackle Bennett Levy (6-2, 260), senior guard Mike Johnson (6-4, 240), and sophomore guard Darren Dudgeon (6-2, 240).

"Our weak points on defense last year should be our strong points this season," insists defensive coach Paul Arslanian. "We started last fall with just one starter back. Despite all the youth, we led the Big Sky in total defense, allowing 331 yards a game."

Injuries forced NAU to play some of its linebacking crop out of position. This fall, Peter Jonovich (6-2, 225) will move from outside back to inside, as will Don Ott (6-0, 200). Both are seniors.

Senior Erik Vance (6-2, 220) was the team's leading tackler. Sophomore Darren Brooks (6-2, 205) out of Tempe McClintock had some last-season success at inside linebacker. Junior Alex Gilmete (6-3, 215) redshirted and has solid potential as an inside linebacker.

The 'Jacks return all four starters in the secondary. John Dierking (6-0, 195) is a four-year letterman who starts at free safety. Dewayne Shavers (5-11, 180) starts at cornerback. Henry Miller (6-0, 200) is the strong safety. Speedy Darren

Carrington (6-2, 190, 4.5) switched from split receiver to defensive back and showed progress with each game. All are seniors except Carrington, a junior.

The most experienced down linemen include ends Chris Glaze, a 6-3, 245-pound senior, and Mike Sanfratello, a 6-4, 250-pound sophomore from Scottsdale Coronado. Sandy Woodward (6-0, 235) started at defensive tackle last year as a sophomore. Phoenix South Mountain grad Tony Battiest (6-3, 280) has played end and tackle the last three years and appears to have found a home at tackle. Ronnie Fuiava (6-2, 240) saw action last fall and is expected to start as a senior.

The kicking game looks sound. Junior Mickey Penaflor (5-9, 175) could wind up as a double duty kicker. He proved his worth by leading the nation's I-AA schools in field goals and kick scoring. Penaflor kicked 19 of 26 field goals (73%) and added 33 of 36 PATS for 90 points. His longest field goal was 51

yards and his average distance was 34.8 yards. He was 8-for-11 from the 40-51 yard range. He punted just one game, but averaged 39.0 yards on three kicks, dropping two of his boots inside the enemy 20-yard line.

Sandy Sledge, another South Mountain High product, and Larry Huff (5-9, 175) are the top kick return men. Last season, Sledge returned 18 punts for a 6.8 average, and 10 kickoffs for a 21.3 average, while Huff returned two for an average of 21.5.

"If we can stay clear of the injury bug we could have the best season since we arrived here," adds Kentura. "We've got to keep our quarterback healthy and get more balance in our offense. We've improved in that category. We've also got a lot of good Arizona kids lately. But the conference is so balanced. It's going to go down to the wire."

And if NAU can stay healthy, they may be the first runner to hit the wire. ■

## Lumberjack's Best

Record/Head Coach	Year
11-1-0 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1958
9-3-0 .. Joe Salem .....	1977
8-1-0 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1957
8-2-0 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1956
8-2-0 .. Joe Salem .....	1978
8-3-0 .. Joe Salem .....	1976
7-1-0 .. Randy Lavik .....	1928
7-3-0 .. John Symank .....	1969
7-4-0 .. Dwain Painter .....	1979
7-4-0 .. Larry Kentura .....	1986
7-4-0 .. Larry Kentura .....	1987
6-1-0 .. R. G. Stevenson .....	1923
6-1-2 .. E. H. "Swede" Lynch .....	1927
6-2-1 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1959
6-3-0 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1964
6-3-2 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1960
6-4-0 .. Max Spilsbury .....	1962
6-4-0 .. Andy MacDonald .....	1966
6-4-0 .. Andy MacDonald .....	1968



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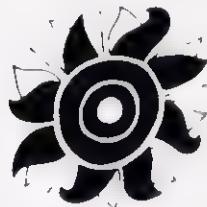
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- Chandler



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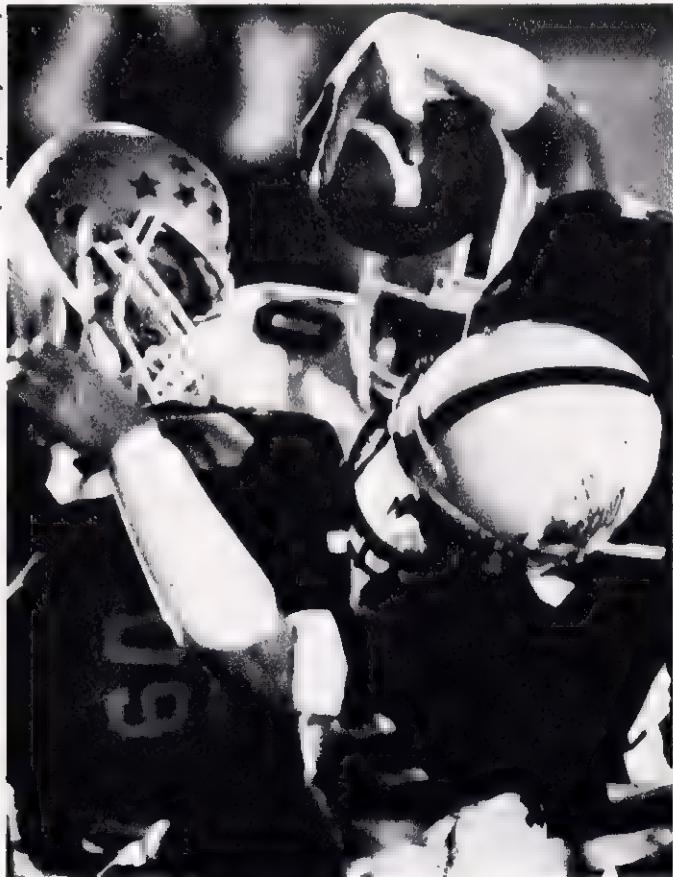
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# 1988 LUMBERJACK RECRUITS

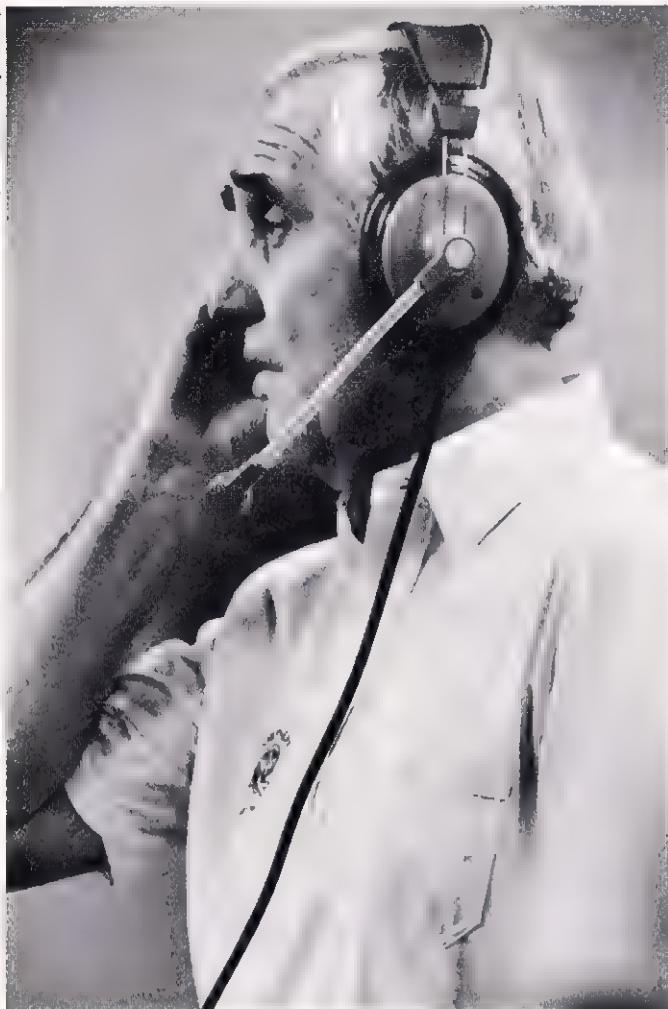
Position/Recruit	Hometown/School
QB .. Darrell Bevell, 6-2, 175 .....	Scottsdale (Chaparral), Az.
QB .. Tony Wersler, 6-2, 185 .....	Scottsdale (Saguaro), Az.
QB .. Brad Salem, 6-1, 180 .....	Sioux Falls (O'Gorman), SD.
RB .. Nathaniel Gatt, 5-10, 185 .....	San Bernardino(JC), Ca.
WR .. Gene Martin, 5-9, 170 .....	El Centro (Union), Ca.
WR .. Brent Salem, 6-1, 175 .....	Sioux Falls (O'Gorman), SD.
TE .. Erin Motes, 6-4, 200 .....	Thatcher (JC), Az.
OL .. Brian Foote, 6-3, 260 .....	Fullerton (JC), Ca.
OL .. Tom Jeeves, 6-4, 260 .....	Scottsdale (JC), Az.
OL .. Brian Watley, 6-3, 240 .....	Contra Costa (JC), Ca.
OL .. Scott Nelson, 6-4, 250 .....	Mesa (JC), Az.

(Tempe Daily News)



Tempe McClintock TE/LB Tucker Smith

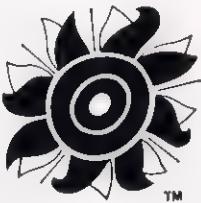
(Arizona Republic)



Kentera likes this recruiting class ... just like last year.

Position/Recruit	Hometown/School
LB .. Tucker Smith, 6-2, 200 .....	Tempe (McClintock), Az.
LB .. Brian Loftus, 6-1, 217 .....	Tucson (Sahuaro), Az.
LB .. Lyneil Mayo, 6-0, 210 .....	Bakersfield (JC), Ca.
DL .. Jonathan Jones, 6-2, 286 .....	Bakersfield (JC), Ca.
DL .. Dave Schlagel, 6-4, 225 .....	Mesa (Mountain View), Az.
DL .. Kevin Szalonek, 6-4, 250 .....	LaPuente (Bishop Amat), Ca.
DL .. Todd Trimm, 6-3, 235 .....	Bakersfield (JC), Ca.
DL .. Mike Welch, 6-3, 230 .....	Glendale (JC), Az.
DB .. Cedric Ingram, 5-10, 185 .....	Bakersfield (JC), Ca.
DB .. Ralph Renzi, 5-11, 180 .....	Annandale (Annandale), Va.

# Sunkist Fiesta Bowl™



## Salutes The Northern Arizona Players of the Year

1987 .. Drayton Martin, Round Valley, DB  
1986 .. Tim Landers, Round Valley, T  
1985 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, RB  
1984 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, RB(jr)  
1983 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, QB  
1982 .. Gary McEwen, Snowflake, QB  
1981 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, RB  
1980 .. Greg Topp, Flagstaff, QB  
1979 .. Greg Turner, Flagstaff, RB  
1978 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, RB  
1977 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, RB(jr)  
1976 .. Willard Reeves, Coconino, RB  
1975 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, RB  
1974 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, RB  
1973 .. Dwain Smith, Winslow, RB  
1972 .. Carl Russell, McNary, QB  
1971 .. Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, RB/DB  
1970 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, RB  
1969 .. Tom Gillmore, Winslow, LB  
1968 .. Roosevelt Van, Winslow, B  
1967 .. Jerry Russell, McNary, HB  
1966 .. Bill White, Kingman, T  
1965 .. Alex Nish, Kingman, C  
1964 .. Mike Madeo, Winslow, FB  
1963 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, HB  
1962 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, DB(jr)  
1961 .. Jack Miller, Flagstaff, DB  
1960 .. Preston Dragons, Flagstaff, E  
1959 .. Lance Penrod, Lakeside, QB

(Phoenix Gazette)

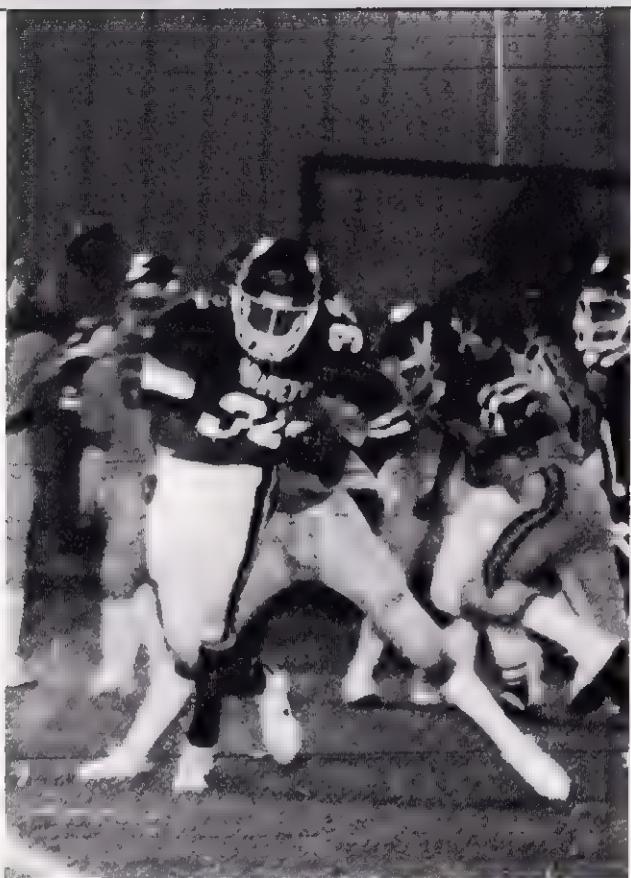


Prep All-American tailback David Winsley.

1958 .. Joe Spear, Snowflake, HB  
1957 .. Lonnie Lund, Round Valley, HB  
1956 .. Bob Rothlisberger, St. Johns, E  
1955 .. Charles Jones, Prescott, RB  
1954 .. Charles Jones, Prescott, RB(jr)  
1953 .. Paul McCormick, Winslow, RB  
1952 .. J.B. Brown, Flagstaff, E  
1951 .. Don Stuart, Flagstaff, G  
1950 .. Garland Neal, Flagstaff, FR  
1949 .. Buster Madariaga, Round Valley, RB  
1948 .. John Lowry, Seligman, E  
1947 .. Marc Smith, Williams, T  
1946 .. Roy Campbell, Prescott, B  
1945 .. Milan Kalembert, Prescott, B  
1944 .. Bob Knight, Prescott, T  
1943 .. Ysmael Torrez, Clarkdale, B  
1942 .. Gene McDougall, Williams, E  
1941 .. Don Corbitt, Prescott, C  
1940 .. Charles Perrill, Kingman, T  
1939 .. Ralph Moran, Jerome, B  
1938 .. Nello Pozzobon, Jerome, G  
1937 .. Roy Carson, Kingman, HB  
1936 .. Bob Svob, Jerome, FB  
1935 .. Eddie Jackel, Flagstaff, QB

## “First Class Ticket!”

# 1988 Northern Arizona FRIDAY NIGHT HEROES



Ganado's Harlan Smith rushed for 1,826 yards.

*This is Flagstaff Football Magazine's checklist of outstanding varsity players for the 1988 high school football season...*

QB .. Dan Williamson, Mingus Union, 6-2, 180  
RB .. Harlan Smith, Ganado, 5-10, 155  
RB .. Jeff Holly, Blue Ridge, 5-10, 168  
FB .. Scott Patch, Parker, 6-2, 205  
WR .. George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 6-2, 170  
WR .. B. J. Little, Holbrook, 6-0, 175  
TE .. Thad Wright, Flagstaff, 6-0, 185  
OT .. John Acosta, Blue Ridge, 6-4, 245  
OT .. Pat Gates, Camp Verde, 6-0, 225  
OT .. Craig Plucker, Winslow, 6-1, 240  
OT .. J.J. Wiltbank, Round Valley, 6-6, 210 (jr)  
OG .. Mike Freer, Flagstaff, 6-1, 185  
LB .. Bryan Henson, Coconino, 6-3, 185  
DL .. Scott Halenar, Payson, 6-2, 190  
DL .. Sam Austrino, Prescott, 6-1, 250  
DE .. Randy Blume, Mingus Union, 6-4, 240  
DE .. Jason Eagar, Round Valley, 6-4, 218  
DB .. Donnell Mayberry, Winslow, 6-1, 160  
DB .. Clint Cross, Mayer, 6-1, 180  
PK .. Greg Martin, Wickenburg, 5-10, 165

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**Jerry Taylor/President**

# 1988 Northern Arizona Checklist



## quarterbacks

Dan Williamson, Mingus Union, 6-2, 180  
Clint Cross, Mayer, 6-1, 180 (C)  
Ronald Williams, Ganado, 5-9, 145  
Nowell Rodriguez, Lake Havasu, 6-1, 185  
Chris Clark, Page, 5-10, 165  
Jody Finicum, Fredonia, 5-8, 155 (C)  
Justin Lewis, Snowflake, 5-9, 155  
Todd Aberle, Winslow, 5-10, 155  
Jeff Tallsalt, Tuba City, 5-10, 170



## linemen

Dane Poe, Camp Verde, 6-1, 190 (jr)  
Vince Villeso, Kingman, 5-1, 145  
Che Contreras, Blue Ridge, 6-0, 235 (jr)  
Brett Jones, Lake Havasu, 6-0, 225  
Rick Turley, Snowflake, 6-1, 195  
J.J. Wilthbank, Round Valley, 6-6, 210 (jr)  
Craig Plucker, Winslow, 6-1, 240  
Mike Freer, Flagstaff, 6-1, 185  
Eric Gano, Flagstaff, 6-3, 225  
Steve Mansfield, Coconino, 6-0, 180  
Scott Halenar, Payson, 6-2, 190  
John Acosta, Blue Ridge, 6-4, 245  
Randy Blume, Mingus Union, 6-4, 240  
Pat Gates, Camp Verde, 6-0, 225  
Sam Austrino, Prescott, 6-1, 250  
Jason Eagar, Round Valley, 6-4, 218



## receivers

Danny Darrow, Kingman, 6-5, 172  
Roland Woody, Chinle, 6-0, 222 (jr)  
Bill Von Kolen, Lake Havasu, 6-2, 180  
John Lukus, Fredonia, 5-8, 155 (C)  
Brad Miller, Joseph City, 6-3, 190 (C)  
Thad Wright, Flagstaff, 6-0, 185  
George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 6-2, 170  
B. J. Little, Holbrook, 6-0, 175



## running backs

David Edmondson, Orme, 5-9, 160  
Greg Ware, Williams, 5-11, 180  
Edwin Horak, Round Valley, 5-9, 160  
Derek Land, Winslow, 5-9, 155 (so)  
Scott Patch, Parker, 6-2, 205  
Harlan Smith, Ganado, 5-10, 155  
Jeff Holly, Blue Ridge, 5-10, 168



## centers

Lupe Uribe, Mingus Union, 5-11, 205



## linebackers

Randy Pruitt, Camp Verde, 5-10, 180  
Brandon Williams, Blue Ridge, 6-0, 193  
Peterson Wilson, Tuba City, 6-2, 210  
Jason Walther, Flagstaff, 6-1, 210 (jr)  
Bryan Henson, Coconino, 6-3, 185



## defensive backs

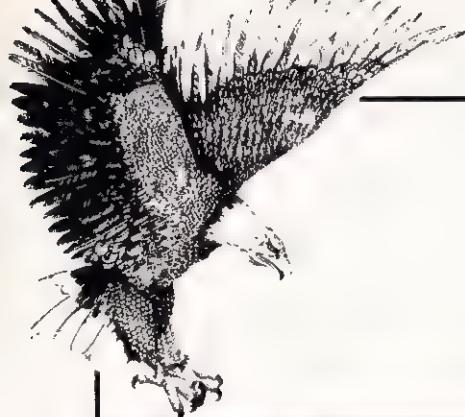
Robert Blake, Mayer, 5-7, 150  
Ike Johnson, Ganado, 5-10, 170  
Donnell Mayberry, Winslow, 6-1, 160



## kickers

Greg Martin, Wickenburg, 5-10, 165

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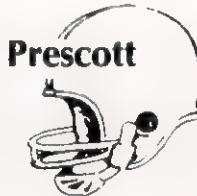
*This win over Wickenburg gave Tot Workman his 200th career victory, 100 at Round Valley. Then he stepped down, just 26 wins away from the state record set by Mesa's legendary Edgar "Mutt" Ford.*

# Big, Bad Badgers Best

The best football team north of the Maricopa County line is probably Prescott. Most of the schools in the northern part of the state won't have to play the Badgers. Today, Bill Gahn's crew plays in the Skyline League in Phoenix. Years ago, before Phoenix grew, Prescott played every big school in the top half of the Grand Canyon State.

"We were very pleased with last year and the players' attitude," says Gahn, who watched his club finish 11-2 after reaching the Class AA (AAA-2) semifinals. "We'll be strong again. We have a strong group back. But we'll miss some good seniors. Like Guy Grover."

Although the Badgers return 21 letter winners from that playoff squad, Grover is not one of them. They'll miss his 27 touchdowns and 162 points. But maybe the staff can find a replacement among all the returning vets, or young players up from a perfect 9-0 JV squad.



One thing is certain: Prescott has one of the area's premier linemen in senior Sam Austrino (6-1, 250), a two-way tackle, or guard, or wherever he wants to play. He's not just big. He's strong. And last season he finished runnerup in the state (heavyweight) wrestling tournament. Also little guard Thad Rummage (5-7, 190) and defensive end Jason Ewald (6-0, 180) are two other good linemen. Both are seniors.

If junior Mike Henwood (5-9, 160) doesn't start at quarterback, Badger fans will still see him in the defensive secondary. Running back Chad Cook (5-10,

165) and defensive back Eric Hardt (5-10, 160) are experienced players.

The rest of the lineup includes Troy Gallagher, Rod Schuler, Angel Mancha, Shawn Jones, Mike Bailey, Tom West, Dave Carvalho, Todd Mayes, Mike Lopez, Tucker Thurman, Mike Madrill, Mark Fry, Chris Menken, Ryan Suttles and Keith Carlson. All of the above played on the varsity.

Five sophomores managed to play on the varsity last fall and the JV squad still went undefeated. Yes, the future looks bright in Badgerland. And it's good news for schools in the north that Prescott plays in the south. But bad news for Skyline II schools.



Down through the years, the best known name in high school football in the north is the Flagstaff Eagles. Although the Eagles reached the playoffs and were conference co-champs, they finished 7-5 after a first-round playoff loss. It had been a long time since the Green & White lost five games in a single season. Fourteen years to be exact.

Although Flag lost 25 lettermen, including running back Pup Gill, head coach Craig Holland is expecting good things from the Eagles in '88. At quarterback, Rick Gwynne, a senior transfer from Kansas, should get the nod over talented sophomore Tyrone Johnson. Gwynne possesses quickness to go along with an accurate and strong arm.

At tailback, junior Leonard Johnson (5-9, 170) is the heir apparent to Pup Gill. Backing up Johnson will be sophomore Jeff Pearsall, a burner with 4.59 forty speed. Junior fullback Justin McHood (5-9, 180) is tough and has excellent hands. Senior Dennis Ashcraft and junior Mike Collins will alternate at

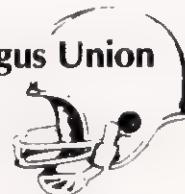
wingback. Tight end will be filled by senior Thad Wright (6-0, 185), an all-state selection as a junior.

Strong tackle should be a competitive spot for Jason Walthour, Greg McGuire, Chad Trott and Scott Fisher, while sophomore David Carder (6-3, 225) may see some action before all is finished. Walthour (6-1, 210) was an all-conference defensive tackle as a sophomore. At strong guard is senior Jeff Berg (5-9, 160). Center is solid with letterman Geoff Holmes (5-11, 165). Senior Mike Freer (6-1, 185) was a second team all-state guard. Quick tackle is senior Eric Gano (6-3, 225), a starter as a junior. At wide receiver is senior Danny Allen and junior Mike Epperson. Both have good hands and Epperson runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds. Because of their speed, Flagstaff should have an improved, excellent defensive unit. Most of the above players play on both sides of the ball. And returning as defensive coordinator after a year's absence to NAU is veteran coach George Moate. Flagstaff and Winslow will have the fastest teams in the northern half of the state if not the whole state.

lines in Springerville. The Elks' veteran coach stepped down after a sensational 200-49-2 career in the prep ranks. His first year at RVHS was 1978.

Round Valley, which produced all-pro defensive end Mark Gastineau of the New York Jets, went 11-1 in Workman's last year. The new coach is Sonny Detmer, a varsity coach for 14 years in San Antonio, Texas. Exactly 14 lettermen will greet Detmer when preseason drills open in August. He'll have three of the top players in the north to work with: DE/OT Jason Eagar (6-4, 218), RB/DB Edwin Horak (5-9, 160), and junior DT/OT J.J. Wiltbank (6-6, 210).

## Mingus Union



A lot of teams in the north won 10 games last fall, and Mingus was one of them. Bill Rudolph's crew went 10-2 and could be a real contender if their athletes stay healthy. "Hopefully, last year will be the beginning of a new era of respectability for Mingus football," predicts Rudolph, 15-7-0 in two years of rebuilding the Marauders.

For 1988, he has the horses to do it, starting with DE/TE Randy Blume (6-4, 240), a good looking college prospect with 4.9 speed. Two other honors candidates include QB Dan Williamson (6-2, 180) and center Lupe Uribe (5-11, 205). Both earned all-league selection and Williamson was all-state honorable mention. He could develop into one of the top signal callers in the north. John Westcott (5-10, 185) doubles at FB/LB, and James Merrill (5-9, 170) is the team's fastest back with 4.7 speed.

## Blue Ridge



Snowflake, no stranger to the playoffs, dropped a 16-14 defensive battle to Blue Ridge in the Class A finals to finish 11-2 in Jack Ned Jolly's first year. "We hope to be playing for the championship again next year," says Jolly. "We should have a great season."

The Lobos include 14 squad members from last year, including their quarterback, 5-9, 155-pound senior Justin Lewis, and two-way tackle Rick Turley (6-1, 195). Travis Tenney (5-10, 175) is also a good quarterback. Center John Bigler (6-0, 175) and tackle James Weatherford (6-2, 180) will help protect and open holes for skill players like Mark Wilson, Jim Flake and Ben Caldwell.

Newcomers Greg Brimhall, Doug Paulsen, Paul Reynolds and Mark Lamoreaux played on a 6-2 junior varsity.

## Round Valley



For the first time in 10 years, Tot Workman will not be walking the side-

The Yellowjackets won their first state football title since 1983, beating rival Snowflake 16-14 in the Class A finals. Coach Paul Moro's squad is loaded again. They have the depth (20 lettermen) and ability to play with anybody in the north. "It was a great effort by our team," said Moro in the spring. "We're looking forward to a tough season and with God's help a successful one."

College coaches, who can't scout

## 1988 Northern Arizona Top 20

1. Prescott Badgers
2. Flagstaff Eagles
3. Snowflake Lobos
4. Round Valley Elks
5. Mingus Union Marauders
6. Blue Ridge Yellowjackets
7. Camp Verde Cowboys
8. Payson Longhorns
9. Holbrook Roadrunners
10. Chinle Wildcats
11. Kingman Bulldogs
12. Ganado Hornets
13. Winslow Bulldogs
14. Coconino Panthers
15. Orme Warriors
16. Lake Havasu Knights
17. Parker Broncos
18. Page Sand Devils
19. Williams Vikings
20. Tuba City Warriors

# BROPHY PREP

## Arizona Interscholastic Association-Citibank "Scholar-Athlete Awards" 1987-88

(3.5 Grade Point Average For Semester In Which Sport Had Its State Championship)

**Craig Jarvis**  
Cross Country  
**Paul Silva**  
Cross Country/Track  
**Jay Ross**  
Cross Country/Track  
**Robert Karber**  
Football  
**James Pack**  
Football/Baseball  
**James Archambault**  
Football  
**Thomas Rush**  
Football  
**Andy Smigelski**  
Football

**Derek Schaefer**  
Football/Baseball  
**Derek Flowers**  
Golf  
**Matthew Short**  
Swimming  
**Adam Boch**  
Swimming  
**Anthony Glinka**  
Swimming  
**Brice Kopas**  
Swimming  
**Scott Russell**  
Swimming  
**James Shine**  
Swimming  
**Jay Pfeiffer**  
Soccer

**Scott Schapker**  
Soccer  
**Randy Weiskittel**  
Soccer  
**Brian Gustason**  
Tennis  
**Eric Gustason**  
Tennis  
**Kenley Remen**  
Tennis  
**Christopher Yeung**  
Tennis  
**David Zahn**  
Tennis  
**John Bado**  
Baseball  
**Roger Brown**  
Baseball

**Cheston Larson**  
Track  
**Andy Bartle**  
Track  
**Bruce Griffin**  
Track  
**Robert Haga**  
Track  
**Paul Hegarty**  
Track  
**James Herman**  
Track  
**Jay Moore**  
Track  
**Michael Worth**  
Track

### "Scholar-Athlete Team Awards" (Minimum 3.1 GPA as a Team)

Cross Country	Tennis		
Brian Gray	Jay Ross	Craig Cook	Kenley Remen
R.J. Jackson	Paul Silva	Brian Gustason	Dennis Roberts
Mike McKenzie	Curtiss Smith	Eric Gustason	Mark Taylor
Paul Mulligan	Gary Tribblet	D. Robert Harbison	John Watson
		Michael Krogh	Christopher Yeung
		Todd Master	Brian Ryede

### National Merit Scholars

John A. Beckwith	Josef D. Schranz
Marc C. Engelsgjerd	Joseph T. Sophy
Andrew R. Hume	Matthew A. Stephenson

### Athletic Achievements

Class AAA Division I

#### Football

State Play-off Semi-Finals

#### Debate

State Tournament Runner-up

#### Cross Country

Skyline Conference Champion

#### Swimming

Skyline Conference Champion—11th Straight Year

State Championship Runner-up

#### Tennis

State Championship Runner-up

### Senior Academic-Athletic Award

Roger A. Brown

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Nick Portalski	Anthony Coury

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games until November, will want to see films on OG/DT John Acosta (6-4, 245), a first team all-stater as a junior. Tailback Jeff Holly (5-10, 168) is another first team all-stater with 4.5 speed for 40 yards, 10.9 for 100 meters. He's also the 'Jackets' free safety.

Northern Arizona doesn't have a better linebacking crew than Brandon Williams (6-0, 193) and Rob Bolden (6-1, 185). Junior nose guard Che Contreras (6-0, 235) was the second leading tackler on the team last year. Both he and junior tackle Sonny Stidham (6-3, 255) could develop into college prospects before picking up their diplomas. The JV unit finished 6-3 and could have three starters on the varsity: RB Jon Lunsford (5-11, 178), DE Bob Vozza (5-11, 204) and LB Steve Penrod (5-10, 182). All three are juniors, and like all members of the squad, work in an outstanding off-season weight program.

### Camp Verde



Camp Verde's 8-3 squad was one of the better Cowboy units ever, and 17 lettermen, plus a 7-1 JV team help paint a rosey picture. "It was a great season, winning the B-North," says Brad Reed, 39-16 in five years, the last two at CVHS. "It was the first championship season for Camp Verde since 1963. We'll try to keep it rolling."

College coaches should keep an eye (or two) on these two tough Cowboys: OT/DT Pat Gates (6-0, 225) and WR George Krekelberg (6-2, 170). Both earned all-state honors as juniors. Linebacker Randy Pruitt (5-10, 180) and OG Dane Poe (6-1, 190) were all-conference. Camp Verde may have one of the bigger Class B schools in the state with players like Richard Casaus (6-3, 225), Jason Brogden (6-1, 200) and Gene Poe (6-3, 205) in the lineup. Sophomore QB Joel England and receivers Cody Forrester and Jon Westervelt are good athletes.

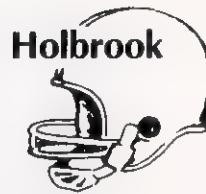
"It looks like we'll be young in our skill spots," warns Reed. "But we should be strong on the line. Our defense should be solid, but our offense must prove itself. We'll try to repeat but it will be difficult."



F. T. Feeney takes over at Payson with a good collection of veteran players to keep the Longhorns fit. Head of the class is all-state DT Scott Halenar (6-2, 190), joined by OG/LB Bryan Ros (5-10, 185) and OG/LB Carl Whittle (6-2, 195). All three are seniors. Halfback Mark Hochstetler (5-11, 155) returned three punts for touchdowns. Center Cutter Holt (5-11, 180) is also a rodeo star.



Head coach Brad Reed and assistants Jim Hess and Doug Lee like what they see: Camp Verde is growing, the school is getting bigger and the football team is winning a lot of games.



Holbrook finished 8-4 after two playoff games and returns eight players from that team. Coach Charlie Esquibel, 120-64 in the prep ranks, lost some good players but has a good group back again: RB/LB B.J. Little (6-0, 175), RB/LB David McGee (5-8, 150), DE Chas De Witt (6-0, 150), OG Mike Davenport (5-7, 150), QB Brian Swanson (5-9, 160), defensive ends Alton Williams (5-9, 145) and Daryl Nichols (6-1, 170), and center Carty James (6-0, 170). However, the Roadrunners appear to have one of the smallest teams in the northern half of the state.



The Wildcats, coached by Gary Thompson, finished 9-1 and lost only to Blue Ridge, the state champions. Twenty lettermen return at Chinle, led by junior TE Roland Woody (6-0, 220), junior OT Art Mitchell (6-0, 242), and seniors Danny Halwood (5-9, 139) and Neel Curley (5-9, 137), a mini split end and quarterback.



Kingman was the surprise club in the north, reaching the playoffs before their season ended at 7-4. They were down at half in four games and won. But this season, with only six letter winners back, the Bulldogs will be inexperienced and small. However, head coach Ray Smith has the toughest (and smallest) nose guard in the region, 5-1, 145-pound senior Vince Villeso, plus an all-state end candidate in senior Danny Darrow (6-5, 172). Halfback Valen Hanes, guard James Jay and tackle Westy Short are top 'Dogs.

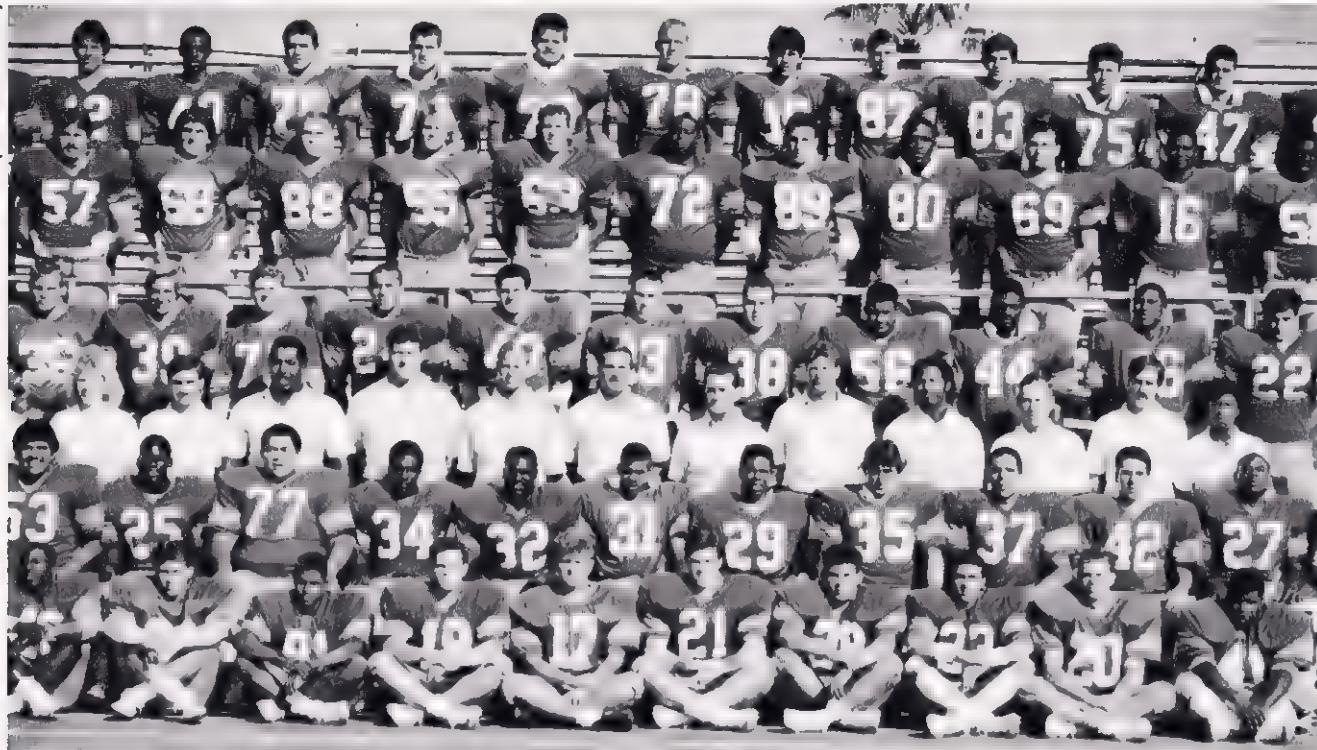


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**Coconino QB Bryan Henson sprints out against Flagstaff.**



Ganado, coached by Mike Morgan, has had seven straight winning seasons in football. This should be their 8th. Last year the Hornets finished 8-2 and reached the playoffs. The junior varsity finished 7-1. Friday nights are looking bright.

With Harlan Smith in the lineup, Ganado's offense is dangerous. The 5-10, 155-pound senior totaled 2,500 all-purpose yards as a junior. He runs 40 yards in 4.65 seconds and earned second team all-state recognition. Two other Hornets who earned all-conference honors are QB Ronald Williams (5-9, 145) and RB/DB Ike Johnson (5-10, 170). Johnson runs 40 yards in 4.66 seconds.

The rest of the lineup includes TE/DE Jim Soder, WR/LB Stan Overturf, OG Fernando Guterrez, OG Patrick Begaye, LB/RB Winfred Charley, tackles Delbert Shepherd, Bryant Cosen and Willis Thompson, plus senior RB/DB Fred Tsosie, the fastest Hornet in the nest with 4.6 speed.



Winslow may be just one year away ... or closer. The junior varsity finished 8-0, and if that group of Bulldogs mature into varsity players by midseason, Winslow could be in the playoff picture ... real fast.

And speaking of fast, the 'Dogs will have one of the fastest backfields in the north. Three of the top six finishers in the state 100 meter dash wear the Maroon & Gold. Sophomore halfback Derek Land (5-9, 155) ran 100-meters in 10.9 as a freshman. He runs 40 yards in 4.5. Senior DB Donnell Mayberry (6-1, 160) finished 6th at state. Sophomore receiver N'Gai Lee (5-6, 145) finished 5th.



Other top 'Dogs include QB Todd Aberle, OT Craig Plucker (6-1, 240), LB Paul Baca, OG Jamie Barth, DB Devon Sawyer, OG Robert Spencer, DE Manny Perez, NG Nathaniel Lewis and junior DE Quentin Hayes, who finished second in the state wrestling tournament at 138 pounds. He'll weigh 165 pounds in the fall.

"We may be a year away," says first-year coach Rick Cue. "But if we can convince them that they're not a year away, we'll be a solid, fundamentally sound football team this year."

No high school in northern Arizona has won more football games than Winslow. Since 1915, the 'Dogs have won 375 games; 224 were won by legendary Emil Nasser, between 1947-81. However, Cue is the school's 4th head coach since Nasser retired seven years ago.



Coach Tony Sutera, in his first year as Coconino's head man, was faced with a small senior class, but still set an excellent foundation for a new, improved program. "We have a larger senior class this season," says Sutera. "We should see progress from our strength and fitness program, plus varsity experience."

The game starts at QB and the Panthers are set with Bryan Henson (6-3, 185), a senior with 4.9 speed who also doubles at linebacker. Coconino has

good speed at halfback in Steve Liddell (5-9, 175, 4.6), Guillermo Cortes (5-6, 160, 4.8), and flanker Andrew Sedillo (5-6, 140, 4.7).

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*He looks like a blur because he is: Winslow halfback Derek Land ran 100 meters in 10.6 seconds as a frosh and rushed for 400 yards on the varsity.*

The Panthers' line is big and strong: John Davison (6-2, 185), Joe Couillard (6-1, 234), Steve Mansfield (6-0, 180) and Guy Ziegler (6-1, 211). All are experienced seniors.

Although the junior varsity finished 2-6 last fall, Sutera brought two sophs up to the varsity: DB Brian Kriesel (5-11, 170) and RB/LB Buddy Cochrane (5-8, 171). Their presence would have changed the sophomore team's outlook. They hope to give the varsity a new look.



Orme, one of the state's best-kept secrets, fielded another competitive team, as Bob Miller's club finished 7-3 last year. The private school, located in Mayer near Cordes Junction, competes in the B-North Conference. "We improved greatly as the season progressed," says Miller, 108-59-7 in the

profession. "We will be more experienced and quicker this time around."

Senior tailback David Edmondson (5-9, 160) is one of the best and fastest (4.7) Warriors in camp. Split end Dan Korn (5-6, 135), tackle Wade Davis (6-1, 210) and center Kevin Cole (6-1, 165) are experienced seniors. Tight end Woody Ward (6-2, 160) and guard Andy Cockrell (5-10, 180) are quality juniors.



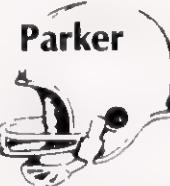
Football fans in Lake Havasu weren't too happy with the local varsity team last fall. Damon Becker, the head coach, wasn't too happy either. "Inexperience, lack of size and speed, problems with personnel and the coaching staff led to an horrendous season," says Becker, 28-20-2 in the prep ranks. "We could be good if all the returning lettermen come

back ready to play and we get some good, varsity level assistant coaches."

The junior varsity finished 5-2-1 and that's the good news. So is 16 returning lettermen. The varsity went 1-8-1 and that's bad.

Tackle Brett Jones (6-0, 225), QB Nowell Rodriguez (6-1, 185) and TE Bill Von Kolen (6-2, 180) appear to be bright spots. Other Knights with varsity experience include OG Jim Kovach (5-10, 185), RB Tony Zita (5-5, 145), SE Jeff Brimhall (6-2, 155), DB Eric Casteel (6-2, 165), SE Ty Cathers (5-8, 145) and LB Jim Gates (5-10, 160).

Up from that good JV squad comes Aaron Bracamonte, Brian Hinsley, Benji Rodriguez, Kevin Morgan, Jeff Williams, Mark Halcomb (5-11, 240), Dusty DeWolfe (5-11, 290), Mike Washington (6-6, 225), and Doug Fisher, to name a few. It shouldn't be too hard for Lake Havasu to put another quality team on the field.



The Broncos "Baby Backfield" has finally grown up. Two years ago, Parker's entire varsity backfield was sophomores. If second-year coach Robin Hondrum can find some quality linemen in the off-season, the Broncos will be respectable. Or even good.

That experienced backfield includes QB David Nelson (6-4, 205), FB Lahonegi McDonald (6-1, 200), and halfbacks Willie Marteniez (6-0, 170) and Scott Patch (6-2, 205). Parker's backfield will probably be bigger than its offensive line. In fact, the Broncos' backfield will be bigger than most defensive lines they face. But backs can't run anywhere without blocking. Chris Harper, a 5-8, 175-pound linebacker, is small but quick and tough. He'll make a good offensive guard. Now all Hondrum and his staff have to do is fill in the other four slots.



The Sand Devils moved up to AAA-2 and faced a long, difficult season. With only eight returning lettermen, the script

might not change. Page must get more seniors out for ball in order to be competitive. One senior, QB Chris Clark (5-10, 155), one junior, RB Russ Herron (5-9, 155) and a sophomore, RB/LB Kemo Bandmann (5-11, 170) are real Devils.

Others with varsity experience include Carl Newbanks, Amar Aquila, Joe Morton, John Madan, Chester Kent, Johnny Yazzie, Dustin Ott, Lorin Cummings, Henry Begay and giant tackles Justin Begay (225) and Kavin Kirk (210). Madan is a 208-pound center.

### Williams



Improvement is the name of the game at Williams, where Scott Guyman returns 10 lettermen from a 4-6 club. The Vikings have one of the smallest enrolments in the B-North, but enough talent and pride to be a threat if they stay healthy. "We were wore down last year," claims Guyman. "Payson crushed us. We lost three kids in one game for the season. But our kids' attitudes are improving and they're turning the corner in regards to their work ethics."

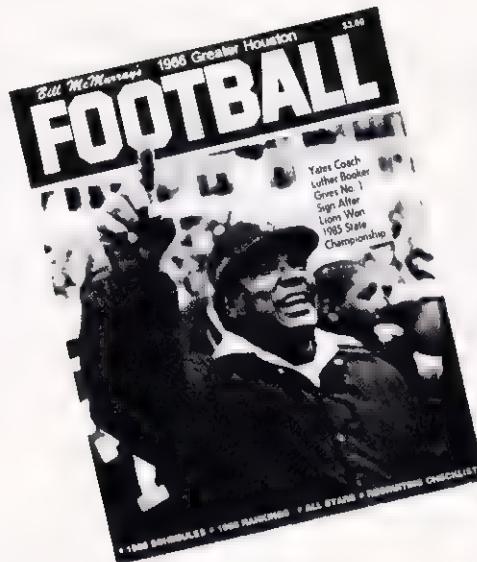
Skill players have never been a problem in Williams. The concern is in the line. Top prospect appears to be TB/DE Greg Ware (5-11, 180), a senior with 4.7 speed. Sophomore fullback Bruce Pearson (5-7, 150) is small but quick (4.8). He'll need to be to survive. The quarterback should be junior Ed Aguila (5-10, 160), a good safety with 4.8 speed. The Vikings best linemen appear to be junior Chad Magness (5-10, 190) and senior Tony Duran (6-1, 190). Still, the school which produced pro baseball star Billy Hatcher has a ways to go on the gridiron.

### Tuba City



The standings show that Tuba City finished 4-6 last fall. It was the best 4-6 performance in the AAA-2 North Central East League. Coach Floyd Haven's crew lost to Coconino 10-7 on a 33 yard field goal with less than a minute to go; were leading Mohave 7-0 at half and lost 14-7, but ran out of time on the one-yard line. "Page, Flag-

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staff and Mingus Union beat us up on the road," says Haven. "But we're going to try and change that."

The Warriors have two real good seniors in QB Jeffery Tallsalt (5-10, 170) and LB Peterson Wilson (6-2, 210). Both were all-conference as juniors. Matthew Yazzie, Emmett Yazzie and Alvin Babbitt are the school's top linemen. Kevin Sam, Lance Blackhorn and Waylon Piestewa are small, quick skill players. "We're excited about this season," adds Haven. "We have experience at the skill positions. We need to replace the offensive line."

### St. Johns



St. Johns, coached by Dale Myers, finished 2-8 last fall and hopes to improve with 18 lettermen in camp. Since the Redskins started 10 sophomores in the last game, improvement looks to be right

around the corner.

Shawn Wakefield and Mike Finch are two linemen who started as sophs. But for Myers' squad to bat .500, the Redskins must get senior leadership from the likes of Ryan Ashton, Cord Udall, Justin Grant, Aaron Lambson and Pat Goodman, to name a few. All are skill players, so St. Johns' problems appear to be in the line.

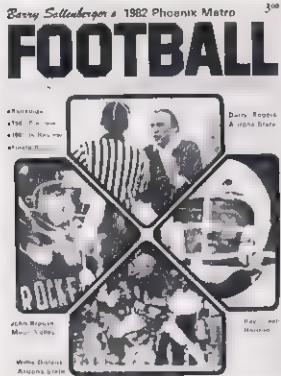
### Mayer



Mayer, coached by veteran Vince Cahill, was almost perfect. The Wildcats finished a near-perfect 10-1 campaign and return 17 lettermen (3 starters) for 1988. They play in the C-North, 8-man league. But one of those lettermen is Clint Cross (6-1, 180), a QB/LB/DB who may be one of the best athletes in Mayer history. The all-stater runs 40 yards in 4.8 seconds. Another top-notch player

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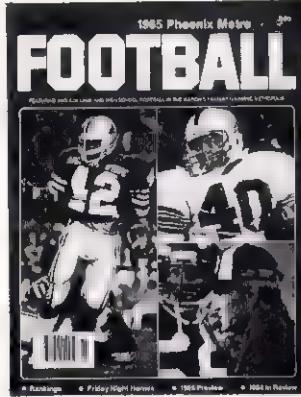
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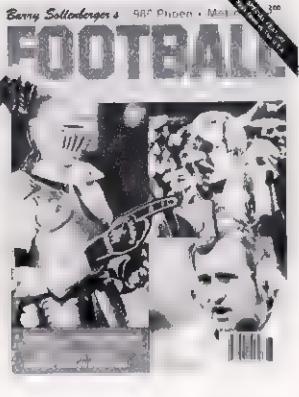
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is senior RB/DB Robert Blake (5-7, 150), like Cross a good all-around athlete.

Bill Cichan, Jeff Ortag and Dennis Hedglin, a 5-11, 215-pound center, are quality players. Hedglin started as a frosh, but was injured the past two years. "We expect to have a team that will compete for a playoff spot, but we lack experience," warns Cahill. "Clint Cross could be one of our best-ever all-around athletes."



Joseph City got off to a good start (6-0) but a rash of injuries slowed the Wildcats down. They finished 7-3 in 8-man ball, and Dave McLaren returns only seven players from that club. "We will not be deep and must stay injury free in order to compete," claims McLaren.

However, the 'Cats have two of the better players in the C-North in QB Doug McLaren (5-11, 155), who completed 124 of 196 passes (63%) for 1,516 yards and 23 touchdowns. Only a junior, McLaren earned all-conference and all-state honors as a sophomore. He's a tough competitor who works hard. Senior Brad Miller is 6-3, 190-pounds and doubles as a linebacker. He should have an excellent year if he works hard.



Fredonia was small but tough last fall and finished with a 6-3 record in "Mont" Griffiths' 23rd year at the helm. The veteran mentor didn't coach between 1981-84, but returned in '85 and is 105-62-3 at the school. "We'll be better if we don't lose our better athletes," says Griffith, who coached his first game in Fredonia in 1961. Three of his teams (1967-68-71) won state championships.

At the top of the class this fall is QB Jody Finicum (5-9, 160) and WR John Lukus (5-8, 155), both seniors. Protection up front will come from two of the biggest linemen in 8-man ball, junior John Quirarte (6-2, 220) and soph Kirk Honey (6-1, 215).

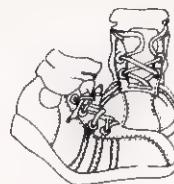


Seligman lost several key players to graduation, but returns a strong backfield; very young, small line. The Antelopes finished 4-6 and continue to improve under Wayne Magnuson. Three sophomores will help out: Gino Matus, Gus Kennedy and Phil Laing, all skill players. But senior leadership must come in the form of FB/LB Ron Quasula, QB/DB Eugene Casaus and end Danny Powsey.



Salome lacked an experienced leader at quarterback, using four different players in nine games. The result was a 3-6 season for Coach Ed "Bud" Scully. "Our line was very young," says Scully. "Both our ends were sophomores who missed their freshman year, and we had a freshman center."

The Frogs' line will be anchored by junior tackle Dusty Alder (6-1, 240) and junior guard Jayson Campbell (5-10, 170). Sophomores Jose Cleto (5-9, 240) and Chino Molina (5-11, 200) will help out at the guard spot. Will Downing (6-2, 165) will be the primary targets of QB Tyler Weisser (5-10, 170). Weisser is a lefty who suffered a broken collarbone against NWCC at midseason.



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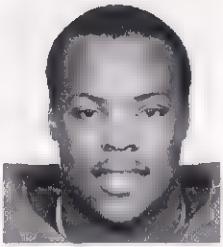
# NORTHERN ARIZONA FOOTBALL RECORDS



**Greg Topp,**  
Flagstaff



**Ray Smith,**  
Coconino



**Stan Gill,**  
Flagstaff



**Billy Hatcher,**  
Williams



**David Winsley,**  
Flagstaff

**TOUCHDOWNS(SEASON)**  
 35 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 32 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970  
 29 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975  
 29 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 28 .. Ron Carillo, Round Valley, 1966(jr)  
 27 .. Guy Grover, Prescott, 1987  
 26 .. Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981  
 26 .. Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981  
 25 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, 1978  
 25 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984(jr)

**TOUCHDOWNS(CAREER)**  
 62 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85  
 59 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81  
 52 .. Tom Fruth, Payson, 1978-81  
 51 .. Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1969-71  
 47 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1961-63  
 35 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1973-74

**TOUCHDOWNS(GAME)**  
 8 .. Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986  
 6 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970  
 6 .. Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986(jr)  
 5 .. Roy Campbell, Prescott, 1945  
 5 .. Charley Jones, Prescott, 1955  
 5 .. Perry Penrod, McNary, 1956  
 5 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963  
 5 .. Jack Johnson, Round Valley, 1969  
 5 .. Pat Rubio, St. Johns, 1970  
 5 .. Sid Udall, Round Valley, 1973  
 5 .. Danny Beckworth, Page, 1975  
 5 .. Danny Beckworth, Page, 1975  
 5 .. Brian Aldridge, Snowflake, 1976  
 5 .. David Trueblood, Coconino, 1981  
 5 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 5 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 5 .. George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1987 (jr)

**POINTS(SEASON)**  
 229 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 214 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970

180 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 162 .. Billy Hatcher, Williams, 1978  
 162 .. Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981  
 162 .. Guy Grover, Prescott, 1987  
 156 .. Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981  
 155 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963  
 150 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984(jr)  
 140 .. Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1971

## POINTS(CAREER)

377 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81  
 372 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85  
 316 .. Mark Hamblin, Round Valley, 1969-71  
 315 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1960-63  
 312 .. Tom Fruth, Round Valley, 1978-81  
 220 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1973-74

## POINTS(GAME)

38 .. Dillard Nelson, Williams, 1970  
 38 .. Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986  
 34 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963  
 34 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981

## RUSHING YARDS(SEASON)

2,187 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984(jr)  
 2,123 .. Tom Fruth, Payson, 1981  
 2,114 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 2,111 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 1,876 .. Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1981  
 1,826 .. Harlan Smith, Ganado, 1987 (jr)  
 1,646 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1980(jr)  
 1,622 .. Tim Carns, Blue Ridge, 1974  
 1,611 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975  
 1,605 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1974

## RUSHING YARDS(CAREER)

4,880 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1983-85  
 4,461 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1979-81  
 4,265 .. Tom Fruth, Payson, 1978-81  
 3,794 .. John Udall, Round Valley, 1982-84  
 3,736 .. Chris Matthews, Round Valley, 1979-81

2,739 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1960-63  
 2,701 .. Alonzo Orona, Round Valley, 1978-79  
 2,610 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1973-74  
 2,542 .. Tim Carns, Blue Ridge, 1973-74

## RUSHING YARDS(GAME)

469 .. Stanley Jackson, Chinle, 1976  
 329 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 303 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984(jr)  
 297 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975  
 294 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 263 .. Alonzo Orona, Round Valley, 1980  
 256 .. Casper Rice, Coconino, 1979  
 247 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1974  
 (AA title game)  
 238 .. Willard Reaves, Coconino, 1976  
 220 .. Willard Reaves, Coconino, 1976

## AVERAGE YARDS PER CARRY

14.1 .. Jewell Russell, Coconino, 1978(jr)  
 13.4 .. Sid Udall, Round Valley, 1973  
 13.4 .. Mike Gonzalez, Flagstaff, 1983  
 12.3 .. Scott Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980  
 11.0 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963  
 11.0 .. Danny Beckwith, Page, 1975

## AVERAGE YARDS PER GAME

192.2 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 182.3 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1984(jr)  
 171.4 .. Chris Mathews, Round Valley, 1981  
 167.4 .. John Udall, Round Valley, 1984  
 162.3 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981  
 150.0 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1980(jr)  
 145.9 .. Ray Smith, Coconino, 1974

## LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN

99 .. Bob Bledsoe, Flagstaff, 1963  
 99 .. Steve Moncibaez, Mingus Union, 1985  
 98 .. Kelly LeSuer, Round Valley, 1976  
 96 .. David Winsley, Flagstaff, 1985  
 95 .. Charley Jones, Prescott, 1955  
 94 .. Stan Gill, Flagstaff, 1981



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**Northern star: Flagstaff High's James Dugan, 1963 state player of the year, has a laugh with head coach John Ply during senior campaign with the Eagles.**

91 .. Willie Brewer, Snowflake, 1974  
90 .. John Land, Winslow, 1976  
89 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963

**PASSING YARDS(SEASON)**

2,719 .. Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982  
2,098 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983  
1,822 .. Dave Davison, Coconino, 1984  
1,660 .. Vinnie Zanzucchi, Flagstaff, 1983  
1,643 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982(jr)  
1,600 .. Randy McKee, Coconino, 1980  
1,581 .. Paschal Kinsel, Chinle, 1977

**PASSING YARDS(CAREER)**

3,741 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982-83(2)  
3,326 .. Dave Davison, Round Valley,  
1984-85  
3,276 .. Eddie Hamblin, Coconino, 1979-81  
2,760 .. Ron Johnson, Round Valley,  
1966-68  
2,098 .. Marty McKee, Coconino, 1974-76  
2,027 .. Randy McKee, Coconino, 1979-80

**PASSING YARDS(GAME)**

380 .. Paschal Kinsel, Chinle, 1977  
365 .. Mike Oreywyer, Mohave, 1977  
354 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983  
274 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983  
273 .. Dave Davison, Coconino, 1985  
253 .. Ron Johnson, Round Valley, 1968

**TOUCHDOWN PASSES(SEASON)**

24 .. Gary McEwen, Snowflake, 1982  
23 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983  
23 .. Bret Hood, Camp Verde, 1987  
21 .. Greg Woodard, Page, 1968  
19 .. Vinnie Zanzucchi, Flagstaff, 1983

18 .. Greg Topp, Flagstaff, 1980  
18 .. Randy McKee, Coconino, 1980  
17 .. Mark Gaither, Flagstaff, 1976  
17 .. Chris Finch, Round Valley, 1978 (jr)  
17 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982(jr)

**TOUCHDOWN PASSES(CAREER)**

40 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1982-83  
33 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81  
32 .. Max Hamblin, Page, 1974-76  
28 .. Marty McKee, Coconino, 1974-76  
28 .. Dave Davison, Coconino, 1984-85

**TOUCHDOWN PASSES(GAME)**

6 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983  
5 .. Bret Hood, Camp Verde, 1987  
4 .. Randy McKee, Coconino, 1980  
4 .. Audie McKee, Coconino, 1983

**TOUCHDOWN PASSES(HALF)**

4 .. Bret Hood, Camp Verde, 1987

**LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS**

97 .. Eddie Hamblin to Dusty Eager,  
Round Valley, 1981  
88 .. Marty McKee to Willard Reaves,  
Coconino, 1976  
85 .. Tim Salem to Lonnie Ganter,  
Coconino, 1978  
85 .. Jon Sherek to Brad Jenkins,  
Coconino, 1986  
85 .. Brett Hood to Cody Forester,  
Camp Verde, 1987  
78 .. Bob Bledsoe to James Dugan,  
Flagstaff, 1963  
78 .. Greg Topp to Nathan Joe,  
Flagstaff, 1980

**CATCHES(SEASON)**

89 .. Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr)  
66 .. D.L. Nikolaus, Snowflake, 1962  
60 .. Tony Tate, Snowflake, 1982  
49 .. Gary Gonzales, Flagstaff, 1983  
43 .. Gary Steffenson, Flagstaff, 1974  
42 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983  
41 .. Tommy Canyon, Tuba City, 1977

**CATCHES(CAREER)**

89 .. Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr)

**CATCHES(GAME)**

18 .. Randy Nikolaus, Show Low, 1982 (jr)  
12 .. Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1980 (jr)  
10 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983

**RECEIVING YARDS(SEASON)**

983 .. Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1981  
978 .. Vince Pulsifer, Round Valley, 1978  
823 .. Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982  
734 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983  
696 .. Bill Black, Coconino, 1980  
629 .. Brian Zanzucchi, Flagstaff, 1984

**RECEIVING YARDS(CAREER)**

1,936 .. Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1979-81  
823 .. Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982(1)  
793 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1982-83  
782 .. Pete Pulido, Coconino, 1983-84

**RECEIVING YARDS(GAME)**

230 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983  
213 .. Jack Johnson, Round Valley, 1967  
177 .. Nathan Joe, Flagstaff, 1980



# You just can't do any better.

Offices in: Flagstaff, Phoenix, Tempe, and Tucson.



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(Arizona Daily Sun)



Coconino's do-everything QB/TB/DB Ray Smith, 1973-74.

#### TOUCHDOWN CATCHES(SEASON)

- 14 .. Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982
- 10 .. Bill Black, Coconino, 1982
- 9 .. Ray Hunt, Snowflake, 1975
- 9 .. Vince Pulsifer, Round Valley, 1978
- 9 .. Phillip Miller, Coconino, 1983

#### TOUCHDOWN CATCHES(GAME)

- 5 .. George Krekelberg, Camp Verde, 1987 (jr) (4 in 1st half)

#### TOUCHDOWN CATCHES(CAREER)

- 23 .. Dusty Eager, Round Valley, 1979-81
- 14 .. Mark Cibik, Coconino, 1982(1)
- 12 .. Rick DeCosmo, Coconino, 1973-74
- 12 .. Bill Black, Coconino, 1979-80

#### INTERCEPTIONS(SEASON)

- 11 .. Chris Patterson, St. Johns, 1977 (jr)
- 11 .. Drayton Martin, Round Valley, 1987
- 10 .. Stuart Moring, Round Valley, 1980
- 10 .. George Pryer, Flagstaff, 1982
- 10 .. Eric Lane, Coconino, 1983
- 9 .. William Bennett, Williams, 1973
- 9 .. Blake Reidhead, Snowflake, 1974
- 9 .. Cory Jaramillo, Round Valley, 1979
- 9 .. Stafford Woody, Ganado, 1979
- 9 .. Matt Kendall, Flagstaff, 1980

#### INTERCEPTIONS(GAME)

- 4 .. Kevin Stars, Window Rock, 1974
- 4 .. Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986
- 3 .. Nate Bly, Winslow, 1961
- 3 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1963
- 3 .. John Frawley, Mohave, 1973
- 3 .. John Land, Winslow, 1976
- 3 .. Tim Pettit, Williams, 1977
- 3 .. Stuart Moring, Round Valley, 1980
- 3 .. Darren Turley, St. Johns, 1982
- 3 .. Lesi Broyles, Coconino, 1984

#### LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN

- 104 .. Bill Kerr, Kingman, 1952
- 103 .. Greg Turner, Flagstaff, 1978
- 102 .. Edgar Brown, Williams, 1968
- 99 .. Dale Nielson, Holbrook, 1976
- 99 .. Norm Isaacson, St. Johns, 1976
- 98 .. Pat King, Williams, 1955
- 97 .. Matt Kendall, Flagstaff, 1980

#### FIELD GOALS(SEASON)

- 11 .. Tony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1976
- 11 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981
- 11 .. Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983(jr)
- 10 .. Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1974
- 10 .. Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984

#### FIELD GOALS(CAREER)

- 21 .. Dean Roney, Winslow, 1983-84
- 20 .. Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1980
- 19 .. Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1972-74
- 19 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81
- 17 .. Tony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1975-76

#### FIELD GOALS(GAME)

- 4 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1980(jr)
- 4 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1981
- 3 .. Art Kerrick, Coconino, 1978
- 3 .. Rick Saredra, Round Valley, 1970
- 3 .. Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1974
- 3 .. James Crutchfield, Snowflake, 1975
- 3 .. Richard Lowell, St. Johns, 1977

#### LONGEST FIELD GOALS

- 52 .. Dean Roney, Winslow, 1984
- 51 .. Hank Lopez, Flagstaff, 1975
- 50 .. Brian Abraham, Kingman, 1979
- 48 .. Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1973
- 48 .. Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1984
- 47 .. Tony Butts, Lake Havasu, 1976
- 47 .. Art Kerrick, Coconino, 1978
- 47 .. Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1983
- 46 .. Bobby Brooks, Coconino, 1986

#### CONSECUTIVE FIELD GOALS/ WITHOUT MISS

- 9 .. Shawn Peters, Round Valley, 1982-83

#### PATS(SEASON)

- 57 .. Faren Mandel, Flagstaff, 1983
- 50 .. Alex Shores, Page, 1974(jr)
- 48 .. Faren Mandel, Flagstaff, 1982(jr)
- 48 .. Dawson Goforth, Flagstaff, 1985
- 44 .. Kenny Walker, Round Valley, 1980
- 40 .. Cowen Hamblin, Round Valley, 1973

#### PATS(CAREER)

- 91 .. Eddie Hamblin, Round Valley, 1979-81
- 88 .. Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1980-82
- 65 .. Bob McGahey, Lake Havasu, 1972-74
- 63 .. Scott Ross, Coconino, 1974-76
- 63 .. Faren Mandel, Flagstaff, 1982-83

#### PATS(GAME)

- 9 .. Cowen Hamblin, Round Valley, 1973
- 7 .. Herik Mandel, Coconino, 1981(jr)
- 7 .. Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1984

#### LONGEST PUNT

- 90 .. J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr)
- 75 .. Mike Hicks, Flagstaff, 1976
- 73 .. David Dawson, Coconino, 1985
- 68 .. Donald Penny, Coconino, 1986(jr)
- 67 .. Allen Meacham, Coconino, 1984

#### PUNTING AVERAGE(SEASON)

- 52.0 .. J.T. Ellsworth, Snowflake, 1985 (jr)
- 46.8 .. Gary Williams, Blue Ridge, 1974
- 46.4 .. Trent Thompson, Chinle, 1986 (jr)
- 43.1 .. John Clark, Snowflake, 1972

#### LONGEST FUMBLE RECOVERY(TD)

- 85 .. Rick Brenfleck, Coconino, 1968  
(AA title game)
- 83 .. Dale McPhetridge, Coconino, 1974(jr)  
(AA title game)

#### LONGEST PUNT RETURN(TD)

- 98 .. Derald Cox, Flagstaff, 1968
- 97 .. Charles (Choo Choo) Jones, Prescott, 1955
- 97 .. Don Track, Parker, 1968
- 96 .. James Dugan, Flagstaff, 1962
- 96 .. Andrew Porter, Flagstaff, 1985

#### TOUCHDOWNS/PUNT RETURNS/GAME

- 3 .. Paul Russell, Flagstaff, 1934

#### LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN(TD)

- 99 .. Kelly LeSueur, Round Valley, 1975 (jr)
- 99 .. Tony Squieri, Lake Havasu, 1981
- 99 .. Myran Hansen, Coconino, 1986(jr)
- 98 .. Derald Cox, Flagstaff, 1968



(Plano Star Courier)

Plano, with Tommy Kimbrough (center) at the helm, has won back-to-back titles in Texas 5A football

On the north edge of Dallas is the community of Plano, currently the high school football capital of Texas. Coached by Tom Kimbrough, the Wildcats finished 16-0 in 5A competition, winning their 6th state title in seven different attempts.

They became the first Texas school to repeat as state champs in the large school class since Austin Reagan turned the trick in 1967-68. The Wildcats have now won state crowns in Classes 2A, 3A, 4A, and 5A. They finished second to Houston Stratford in 1978.

Kimbrough's 'Cats finished their '87 campaign with a 28-game win streak and the No. 1 ranking in the nation, selected annually (since 1927) by the National Sports News Service. Other top-notch clubs in the country included Pennsylvania powers Pittsburgh North Hills (13-0) and Central Bucks West of Doylestown, winner of 43 games in a row.

The Texas 4A champ was West Orange Stark (15-0), while Kansas City Rockhurst (12-1) won their 5th state crown. During the regular season, the Missouri 5A champs won a wild 25-20 game with the Arkansas 4A winner, Fort Smith Northside. Creighton Prep of Omaha won its third consecutive Nebraska title; 11th since 1955.

National power Honolulu St. Louis has won 22 games in a row; five state

championships since 1955. Calvin Lee has coached the last three. Hawaii continues to lead the nation in attendance at championship games, averaging 24,282 per title game during the past

## Plano's Hit Parade

By ART JOHLFS

decade. The largest crowd: 32,812 at the 1978 finals, won by Waianae.

Little Rock Central finished 9-1-1 in Arkansas after falling in first round action in the state 4A playoffs. The Tigers will soon become the first American high school to win 700 football games. Little Rock has won 30 state championships; national record is 37 by Sioux Falls Washington, South Dakota.

Coach Pete Adkins of Jefferson City, Missouri, 310-55-4 prior to '87, continues to move up the ladder and is 5th on the all-time win list, third at the same school. Adkins first state crown came in 1959. Eleven different Adkins-coached teams have finished undefeated, and between 1958-66, won 71 games in a row.

Derek Brown, a 6-7, 235-pound tight end from Merritt Island, Florida, was selected national player of the year. Kimbrough was the coach. Rockhurst's win over Fort Smith Northside won game of the year honors, while Valdosta's loss to Columbus Carver in the Georgia quarterfinals won the "upset" award.

Two interesting high school all-star games in June saw Georgia defeat Florida 38-32, and Alabama beat Mississippi 24-21. Georgia, ahead 38-7 after three quarters, evened the series at 2-2. Alabama won on a 22-yard field goal in overtime.

### 1987 Top 20 Poll

- 1 .. Plano, TX (16-0)
- 2 .. Jefferson County, TN (15-0)
- 3 .. Pittsburgh North Hills, PA (13-0)
- 4 .. Fontana, CA (14-0)
- 5 .. Central Bucks West, PA (11-0)
- 6 .. Brockton, MA (11-0)
- 7 .. Alexandria Williams, VA (14-0)
- 8 .. Union, NJ (11-0)
- 9 .. Cincinnati Princeton, OH (12-1)
- 10 .. Lawton, OK (14-0)
- 11 .. Tallahassee Godby, FL (14-0)
- 12 .. Pascasoula, MS (14-0)
- 13 .. West Orange Stark, TX (15-0)
- 14 .. Garner, NC (15-0)
- 15 .. Arkadelphia, AR (14-0)
- 16 .. Pensacola Pine Forest, FL (13-1)
- 17 .. Kansas City Rockhurst, MO (12-1)
- 18 .. Honolulu St. Louis, HI (11-0)
- 19 .. Omaha Creighton Prep, NB (11-1)
- 20 .. Valdosta, GA (12-1)

## Coconino vs. Flagstaff

# The Last Great Rivalry?

By Barry Sollenberger



(Arizona Daily Sun)

Flagstaff and Coconino players scramble for a loose ball on the carpet.

When Coconino and Flagstaff meet this fall at Northern Arizona University's Skydome, it will be the 20th meeting in a rivalry which started in 1969.

Coconino, the new kid on the block, upset Flag 12-7 in the first encounter and leads the series, 10-9-0. There have been no ties. However, like many football classics, the importance of the rivalry will probably change in the near future.

Since statehood in 1912, Arizona has produced its share of great high school football classics. One of the oldest rivalries in the nation is the Douglas-Bisbee civil war. Since 1904, the two southeastern Arizona schools have played a state record 122 games.

Other old, historic clashes include games between Globe-Miami, Tucson-Tucson Amphi and Round Valley-St. Johns, to name a few. These still exist.

But population growth has killed many popular city rivalries, such as North vs. Phoenix Union (closed), Scottsdale

Arcadia vs Scottsdale (closed), and Mesa vs Mesa Westwood. The Mesa-Westwood rivalry became watered down when Mountain View opened a decade ago. And now there are five high schools in Mesa.

Soon there will be three in Flagstaff. But since 1969, the Coconino-Flag "indoor battle" has been the most impressive in northern Arizona. Record crowds, such as 14,000 in 1983, have witnessed the game. Outstanding players like Ray Smith, Willard Reeves, Greg Topp, Stan Gill and David Winsley have played on the carpet. Below is a year-by-year rundown of the rivalry.

*No. 1 - Coconino 12, Flagstaff 7, 1969 ... Underdog Coconino, the new kid on the block, had won the 1968 Class AA state championship in its second year of varsity football. But the Panthers had yet to play rival Flagstaff High, which played its first varsity game in 1923. Coconino combined a great defensive*

effort and a fumble recovery for a touchdown by Curt Bryant on Flagstaff's first play of the game to upset the Eagles, 12-7. Coached by Bill Epperson, Coconino finished 7-2-0. Flag was coached by John Ply and finished 3-5-0. Coconino produced two all-staters: OT Tom Lantz (6-5, 200) and LB Lloyd Sedillo (5-10,165) ...

*No. 2 - Coconino 13, Flagstaff 12, 1970 ... For the second year in a row, the underdog Panthers used good defense and the big play to win. Quarterback Keith Moore turned a broken play into a 65-yard touchdown run just before halftime for the first score of the game. Carlos Diaz just missed a game-winning field goal at the gun. Coconino finished 4-5-0 and Flag went 2-8-0 in John Ply's last year as head coach, his 13th with the Eagles. Neither team produced an all-stater ...*

*No. 3 - Flagstaff 14, Coconino 0, 1971 ... Hadley Hicks, a former prep All-American at Bisbee High School,*

had a successful coaching debut in the series as the Eagles defense completely stymied the slightly favored Panthers. Jerry Nichols returned a punt for a touchdown. The winners broke even (5-5-0) on the season, Coconino finished 4-5-0. For the second year in a row the town failed to produce an all-stater. In 1951, Hicks was one of three running backs on *Sporting News'* All-American High School Team. The quarterback, from Montgomery, Alabama, was Bart Starr ...

**No. 4 - Coconino 19, Flagstaff 6, 1972** ... The winners Bennie Flores booted two field goals and the defense shut down the Eagles' attack. Panther QB Mike Ryan played an excellent game for Epperson's 4-5-1 team. Flagstaff finished 4-6-0 and neither team produced an all-stater, again ...

**No. 5 - Flagstaff 22, Coconino 6, 1973** ... In a game rated a tossup, Flagstaff used two touchdowns by Steve Larson and a fumble recovery by Brian Dierker to beat the eventual state champions. Coconino finished 8-2-1 after beating Tucson Flowing Wells 14-3 in the finals. Flag finished 3-7-0, so why the game was rated a tossup is still a mystery. Coconino all-staters: Junior QB Ray Smith (5-8, 155), DL Cameron Stavely (6-1, 190) and junior LB David Blackburn (6-1, 195) ...

**No. 6 - Coconino 27, Flagstaff 7, 1974** ... The heavily-favored Panthers used Ray Smith's (switched from quarterback to tailback) 208 yards rushing to break a 7-7 halftime deadlock. David Diaz' touchdown pass gave the Eagles their only score. Coconino went on to beat Douglas, 21-14 for another gold championship trophy. Coconino all-staters: RB Ray Smith (5-9, 165), SE Rick DeCosmo (5-11, 180), DL Marvin Hatcher (5-11, 185) and LB Blake Heap (5-9, 175). Flagstaff all-staters: LB Bardo Anaya (6-1, 195) and DB Don Harkey (5-9, 145). Coconino finished 10-1, the first Flagstaff school to win 10 football games. The Eagles went 6-4-0 ...

**No. 7 - Flagstaff 22, Coconino 6, 1975** ... Once again the underdog prevailed as Flagstaff used two long punt returns and the running of Kenny Gill to beat the Panthers. Willard Reaves, who later played in the pro ranks, rushed for 100-plus yards in a losing cause. Eagles' defense keyed the win. Coconino all-staters: OT David White (6-0, 190). Flagstaff all-staters: OG Randy Ryan (6-2, 180), JC Vic Boren (6-0, 180), DL Joe Joyce (6-5, 190), LB Jim Rice (5-10, 200). Coconino finished 7-2-1 with Bill Epperson at the helm. Eagles went 7-3 ...

**No. 8 - Coconino 38, Flagstaff 15, 1976** ... Underdog Coconino trailed 7-0 at halftime and exploded for 38 second half points. In a great individual performance, Willard Reaves rushed for 220 yards and scored four second half touchdowns. Kelvin Gill caught a 30-yard TD pass and returned a kickoff 94 yards for the Eagles' two scores. Coconino all-staters: RB Willard Reaves (5-11, 170), OT Jim Shallman (6-3, 195). Flagstaff all-staters: OE Mike Hicks (6-0, 162). Epperson's Panthers finished 7-2-1 again. Hadley Hicks' Eagles went 8-2 ...

**No. 9 - Coconino 13, Flagstaff 6, 1977** ... In another upset, Coconino played a near-perfect game and got great running by Jesse Crawley in the first Coconino-Flag game in the dome. Brothers Steve and Mike Hicks combined on a touchdown pass for Flag's only score. The winner's defense was led by all-state linebacker Ron Stalnaker. Flagstaff all-staters: SE Hicks (6-0, 170). Coconino all-staters: LB Stalnaker (5-11, 155). Coconino finished 6-4, Flagstaff 8-2 ...

**No. 10 - Coconino 21, Flagstaff 19, 1978** ... Flagstaff dominated the stats, but Coconino won the game and their fourth AA North crown. The Eagles missed a field goal with 24 seconds left, ending Hadley Hicks' career in the rivalry. Coconino all-staters: DB Loren Hills (5-9, 160), PK Art Kerrick (5-11, 190). Flagstaff all-staters: RB Eric Stingley (5-10, 160). Both teams advanced to the playoffs; Coconino finished 9-2, Flagstaff 8-3 ...

**No. 11 - Flagstaff 21, Coconino 12, 1979** ... For the first time in the series, a favored Flagstaff club (9-3) came out on top. Junior quarterback Greg Topp, who later played at Stanford, threw only one incomplete pass all night. It was Bill Epperson's final appearance as Coconino's coach, finishing with a 7-4 record in the series. Only Flagstaff produced all-staters: RB Greg Turner (5-11, 180), LB Eric Berger (5-11, 165); Topp (6-4, 175) as a punter ...

**No. 12 - Flagstaff 14, Coconino 0, 1980** ... The first meeting between Steve Maier and Rick Smith-coached teams was a defensive battle. Smith's Eagles (11-1) used short TD runs by Stan Gill and Tony Cullen to win the school's third AA North crown since 1962. Coconino (6-5) all-staters: LB Rick Westling. Flagstaff all-staters: QB/P Greg Topp (6-4, 180), junior RB Stan Gill (5-10, 185), OG Michole Shorty (5-11, 195), LB Roger Teague (6-4, 205), DB Matt Kendall (5-11, 166) ...

**No. 13 - Flagstaff 14, Coconino 3, 1981** ... The Eagles (12-0-1) won their



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Flagstaff's Joe Daly, Mike Hicks and Randy McDonald cheer for the Eagles when the game was played outside, in the cold, rain, etc ...

third straight game in the series and their first state crown since 1935. Stan Gill, who attended Stanford, rushed for 134 yards to key the FHS attack. Flagstaff all-staters: OG Jim Passalacqua (6-0, 180), OT Walter Nolan (6-1, 205), LB Michole Shorty (6-0, 200), RB Gill (5-10, 190). Coconino all-staters: DL Mike Dolby (5-11, 180). Coconino finished 7-3-1 ...

No. 14 - Coconino 22, Flagstaff 0, 1982 ... The Panthers (9-2) used two

goal line stands and the passing of Audie McKee to Mark Cibik to skunk the eventual state champs. Although Coconino won their fifth conference title with the win, Rick Smith's Eagles (9-3) beat Tucson Flowing Wells for the state championship three weeks later. Coconino all-staters: RB Jay Cox (6-0, 200), PK Herik Mandel (5-11, 160), DL Mike Dolby (6-0, 190). Flagstaff all-staters: DL Ramsey Davison (6-0, 210), LB Doug Thomas (6-2, 205), DB Daniel Casados (6-0, 165) ...

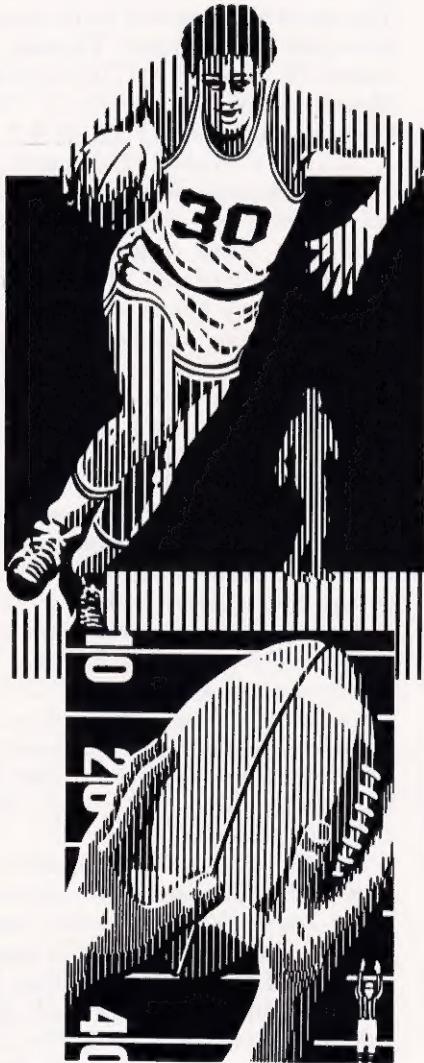
No. 15 - Coconino 27, Flagstaff 25, 1983 ... The two schools combined for a 20-2 season record, best in the city's history. The Panthers prevailed in the first battle of unbeatens in the series before a record crowd of 14,000 at NAU. The passing of Audie McKee (21 of 38, 354 yards, 4 TDs) to Phillip Miller (10 catches, 230 yards, 2 TDs) was too much for the Eagles. For the second year in a row, Flagstaff (11-1) won the state AA crown but didn't win the city title. Coconino all-staters: WR Miller (6-2, 180), QB McKee (6-0, 175), DL David Hathaway (6-2, 210), DB Eric Lane (5-10, 156). Flagstaff all-staters: RB Gary Gonzales (5-11, 175), RB Tim Gill (5-9, 165), LB Rob Greve (6-2, 205) ...

No. 16 - Flagstaff 21, Coconino 3, 1984 ... Junior David Winsley rushed for 175 yards as the Eagles beat CHS (6-5) in an easy win. Flagstaff (9-2-1) went on to capture its fourth straight AA crown while Coconino was eliminated in a semifinal loss to Peoria. Flag beat Peoria in the title game. Winsley set a northern Arizona record (see record chart) by rushing for 2,187 yards. Coconino produced no all-staters, but FHS did: RB Winsley (5-8, 170), TE Brian Zanzucchi (6-2, 210), OG Chris Quayle (6-0, 200), DL Adam Holmes (5-10, 170), LB Rob Greve (6-2, 215) ...

No. 17 - Flagstaff 10, Coconino 7, 1985 ... Sophomore QB Mike Caputo was the star. Coconino's defense held Flag's David Winsley to 96 yards on 27 carries in a losing effort. David Goforth kicked the winning field goal with seconds remaining. Flagstaff, in Carig Holland's first year as head coach, finished 9-2 after falling to Prescott in the playoffs. Coconino went 7-4 and produced one all-stater: QB Dave Davison (6-3, 200). Flagstaff all-staters: Winsley, who broke the state career rushing record (4,880 yards), and PK Goforth (6-1, 190) ...

No. 18 - Coconino 28, Flagstaff 9, 1986 ... The underdog Panthers (4-5-1) used three Eric Olson touchdown runs to dominate the Eagles (6-4), playing for the first time in three years without David Winsley, who signed with Arizona State. Eddie Messman's 252 yards passing was the highlight of the Eagles' attack. The city produced no all-staters ...

No. 19 - Flagstaff 19, Coconino 7, 1987 ... Flagstaff senior tailback Pup Gill rushed for 210 yards on 34 carries as the Eagles (7-5) took a bazaar 5-0 halftime lead. Gill rushed for 105 yards on 18 carries in the first half. Coconino finished 4-6-1 in Tony Sutera's first season. The city produced no first team all-staters for the second year in a row. ■



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